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N.S.W. APPLE AND PEAR EXPORT ASSOCIATION.

Mr. H. V. Smith, Batlow, presided on December 2 at a meeting of Apple growers and exporters, convened by the N.S.W. Fruitgrowers' Federation.

It was decided to form the N.S.W. Apple and Pear Export Association, and a constitution was adopted. Representatives were appointed to confer with the Fruit Merchants' Section of the Chamber of Commerce and the Overseas' Shipping Representatives' Association, re shipping space for the 1933 season.

A Committee consisting of Messrs. H. V. Smith, H. G. Edgell, and W. W. Challis (representing the growers), and J. Holmes, J. W. Blick (representing shippers), met and drafted rules for the Governing Council by which the management was vested in a council consisting of fifteen members: ten elected by the growers and five by the exporters, with an executive consisting of four growers and three exporters.

Pear Export.—A Melbourne exporter of Pears has made arrangements to pre-cool 50,000 cases of Pears at the cool stores of the Shepparton Fruit Preserving Co. Ltd. The fruit will be delivered to the cool store, where it will be reduced in temperature, packed, and returned to the chambers, prior to being forwarded for shipment.

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THE SPIRIT OF OTTAWA.

THE UNIQUE FEATURE of the recent Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa was the attendance of British and Dominion commercial advisers representing primary and secondary industries.

As will be readily understood, the decisions have not met with unanimous approval, because in various parts of the Empire some established local and international business arrangements have had to be recast. However, agreements have been made for a five-year term and the Empire has to settle down to the new tasks in a spirit of confidence and goodwill.

The Ottawa decisions were the best possible in the light of available information. A new Empire consciousness has been created. Not only will there be increased trade between the Mother Country and the overseas Dominions, but inter-Empire trade has been fostered.

The spirit of the Ottawa Conference was goodwill to all and the welding together of the various parts of the Empire. A long-sighted vision is needed. The genius of the British race was exemplified at Ottawa. It now rests with all sections of the Empire to implement the agreement in its letter and spirit, thus strengthening the bonds of Empire, and paving the way for further Empire development and adjustments as similar Economic Conferences are held in the future.

NEW ZEALAND PLACES EMBARGO ON AUSTRALIAN FRUIT.

Is There Any Danger of Introducing "Fire Blight" by Importing Fruit?

"PROBABLY THE WORST BLOW the Australian citrus industry has received," is the opinion of an expert regarding the action of the New Zealand Government in placing an embargo on the importation of fruit from Australia. All fresh fruits are included under this ban. Urgent representations have been made by producers to the Federal Government in order to have the embargo lifted.

It would appear that the embargo placed on New Zealand Apples entering Australia is the largest contributing cause.

Under quarantine regulations, Australia will not permit the entry of fruit from any country in which "fire blight" (Bacillis amylovorous) exists. This applies very definitely to Canada and New Zealand. It is submitted on the part of these countries that there is no danger of the introduction of "fire blight" from the fruit.

It is frankly acknowledged that Australia does not desire to receive the "fire blight," but if assurance can be given by scientific officers that there is no practical danger of infection from the importation of fruit from countries where fire blight exists, there can be no justification for the continuance of the embargo.

Certainly much money has been invested in cool stores in Australia in order to supply the late local markets. Further, it is frankly admitted by growers that there is no justification for using quarantine regulations for trade purposes.

The question has been raised as to if the embargo were lifted, would New Zealand supply Apples during the flush of the Australian season, or towards the end of the year with their late keeping varieties.

* * * * *

The subject was discussed at the December meeting of the Executive of the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association, when it was indicated that the delegates favored the lifting of the embargo, provided there was no danger of the importation of "fire blight" from the fruit. The subject will be discussed at the forthcoming Australian Apple and Pear Export Council meeting at Melbourne on January 4 and 5.

* * * * *

On the subject of the importation of Apples, Canada comes into the picture, particularly in the event of the lifting of the embargo on the "fire blight" question. It is suggested in some quarters that certain safeguards would be necessary—namely, the issuing of certificates; the fact that the fruit was produced at least five miles from any trees infected with "fire blight," and the fruit in addition, of course, being subject to rigid inspection.

* * * * *

From the standpoint of trade with both New Zealand and Canada, the lifting of the embargo would be to the advantage of Australia.

Shepparton Fruit Preserving Co. Ltd., showed a profit of £49,617 for the year just ended. The directors allocated £30,000 to the reserve fund, making the total reserves £120,000. Shareholders received a dividend of 10 per cent., and a bonus of 5 per cent. A total of £91,013 was paid to growers during the year.

Personal.

Doncaster.—Cr. and Mrs. J. J. Tully kindly made their home available for the final meeting for the year of the Doncaster branch of the auxiliary for the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind. Members brought gifts which were disposed of during the afternoon. The Secretary (Mrs. H. H. Gardner) reported that over £11 was raised as the result of this effort.

Mr. P. Cox, of Griffith (N.S.W.), has been nominated as the representative of dried tree fruitgrowers in the Murrumbidgee irrigation areas on the Advisoy Committee to advise members of the N.S.W. Dried Fruits Board the requirements of dried tree fruit growers pending those growers obtaining direct representation on the Board.

Mr. Thomas Steele has been nominated as the representative in the Young and Koorawatha districts on this Committee.

We received a postcard from Mr. C. H. Tutton, sent from Vancouver, wishing us the compliments of the season. He expects to be in Melbourne this month, and is looking forward to Australia's sunshine after a period of gloomy skies and incessant rain in Canada.

OBITUARY.

Mr. J. F. Kruger, of White & Son Ltd., Hull.

It is with great regret that we learn by cable of the passing of Mr. J. F. Kruger, one of the directors of Messrs. White & Son, Liverpool, Hull, London, etc.

Mr. Kruger was well known in Australia, having made many visits in the interests of the White Service.

A kindly man with a most lovable nature, he endeared himself in the hearts of many orchardists and the various agents in Australia. But the grim Reaper has done his work and the fruit industry throughout will be the poorer by the loss of one of the pillars of the trade and one of Nature's gentlemen.

WELCOME HOME TO MR. J. B. MILLS.

A pleasant function was enjoyed on Thursday, December 22, when a welcome home dinner was tendered to Mr. J. B. Mills, President of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council, on his return from Ottawa and London. There was a large and representative gathering at the Oriental Hotel, Melbourne. There were present:—Representatives of the Federal and State Parliaments, fruitgrowers, shippers, representatives of shipping companies and businesses connected with the fruit industry.

Mr. Geoffrey W. Brown, President of the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association, who presided, read apologies from the Prime Minister, Hon. (now Sir Henry) Gullett, Mr. C. A. S. Hawker, M.P., Mr. John Allan (Minister for Agriculture, Victoria), and others.

In apologising for non-attendance, the Prime Minister wrote conveying cordial congratulations to Mr. Mills and wishing the function every success.

The Minister for Customs, Mr. (now Sir Henry) Gullett, wrote:—"I should like to express the very deep appreciation of the Ministerial delegation and of the Commonwealth Government for the services of Mr. J. B. Mills at Ottawa. He was throughout of the greatest practical assistance to Mr. Bruce and myself. The interests he served could not have had a more capable representative, and we were pleased indeed to have him associated with us in our work."

Mr. C. A. S. Hawker, M.P. (previously Minister for Commerce), wrote:—"I much appreciate the good work which Mr. Mills gave at Ottawa and therefore regret doubly that I cannot be present at the welcome home function. I would be grateful if you would express my apologies to Mr. Mills and to those present."

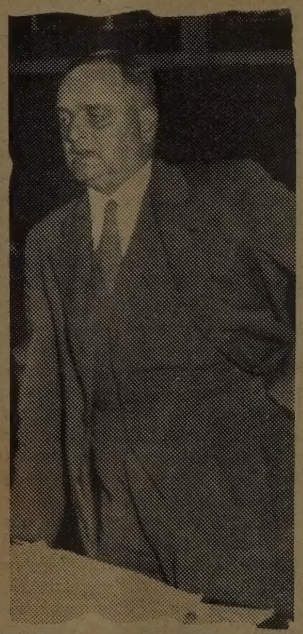
Mr. H. W. Osborne, General Manager of the Western District Co-op. Co., one of the official advisers at Ottawa, in apologising for non-attendance, wrote:—"I regret very much that I am not able to attend, because I was keenly anxious to pay my tribute to the delegate who so ably and successfully represented the fruit industry at the Ottawa Conference, and who also rendered me very valuable assistance in regard to other Australian primary products. He attended all official Ministerial Conferences and meetings of Empire delegates. His expert knowledge of all matters pertaining to the fruit industry was recognised by Ministers and consultants, and his sound advice contributed very much towards securing favorable preferences for Australia and other Dominions."

When in England, Mr. Mills was almost continuously engaged in conferences, and representatives of the fruit-producing and marketing interests travelled from distant parts of the United Kingdom and from the Continent to confer with him. The information which he obtained should prove invaluable to the fruit industry of Australia.

"I would like to say much more concerning the great services rendered to Australia by Mr. Mills at the Ottawa Conference and in England, and it is gratifying to know that his work is recognised and appreciated by fruitgrowers throughout the Commonwealth."

The toast to the Federal and State Parliaments was proposed by Mr. C. J. Parnham, and responded to by Hon. J. G. Latham, Federal Attorney-General, and Mr. W. H. Everard, M.L.A.

In proposing the toast "Our Guest," the Hon. J. G. Latham said he was attending at the request of the Hon. H. S. Gullett (Ministerial delegate at Ottawa) in order to express to Mr. Mills the appreciation of Mr. Gullett and the appreciation of the Federal Government. The Government is aware of his industrious, energetic and knowledgeable work at Ottawa. While difference of opinion existed in regard to marketing fruit, there was no doubt as to the ability of Mr. Mills. It was of paramount importance that Australian fruit exported should be true to grade and description. He was glad that the industry was taking notice of these matters. Continuing, Mr. Latham spoke well of the advertising of Australian fruit in U.K. He was glad to have been of service when in company with Sir Granville Ryrie the first shipment of the 1932 season was inspected on arrival. A talkie picture was made in which after eating an Apple which was of first-rate quality he had eulogised Australian Apples, and he found on enquiry this had been seen by 15 million people. Also he (Mr. Latham) had been called upon to negotiate with



Flashlight Photo. of Mr. Mills while speaking.

the French Government to prevent the imposition of an embargo on Australian Apples because of the danger of San Jose scale.

Mr. W. H. Swanton, Chairman of the Oversea Shipping Representatives' Association, said that Mr. Mills was a friend of long standing for whom he had the greatest regard and respect. He was a capable negotiator on behalf of the fruitgrowers, a stern but a clean fighter, a foreman worthy of their steel. He had earned the respect of all. Fruitgrowers were extremely fortunate in having such an able advocate and he congratulated them upon their successful representation at Ottawa.

Mr. Frank Moore, fruitgrower, Blackburn, said that in Mr. Mills the fruit industry had a very able representative. The industry did the right thing in sending him to represent them at Ottawa.

On rising to respond, Mr. Mills was received with cheers. On the way to New Zealand he was called to confer with the Ministerial delegation in the preparation of the case for the fruit industry. Outward bound from N.Z. on the voyage to Canada the New Zealanders went into details regarding their case, and on arrival at Ottawa

the representatives from the various Dominions met together with delegates of British agriculture. The proposal was first adopted of recognising the British market for the British producer, which meant that the British producers' representatives then gave their whole weight to the proposals for preference for Empire producers. While the Ministerial delegates' representatives conferred on matters of broad policy the Dominion producers worked out matters of detail affecting their industries. While the raising of wholesale prices was the solution of problems, this might take years to accomplish, and Empire delegates had to view things as they were in an endeavour to get as much for primary producers as possible without hurting the British public or the British producer. He believed there was still a huge market in U.K. for Australian fruit. There was a gap between the wholesale and retail prices which every effort should be made to reduce so that the producer could receive more without increasing the retail price. The Ottawa Conference was not a bargaining ground; it was rather an expression of common-sense co-operation. No foreign country could take serious exception to the preference facilities and quotas as arranged. The foundation had been laid for further adjustments. With regard to fresh fruit, he did not think that Australia need fear in future the undue carry-over of American Apples. The Americans were adaptable people and would not continue shipping at a loss. With England off the gold standard the adverse exchange with America was a serious item. The British trade at first had shown hostility to the Ottawa Agreement because they feared that a huge industry was in jeopardy. A big trade had been built up with foreign countries and the products were handled well. The obligation rested upon the Dominions to bring about much-needed reforms to adequately supply the British market.

Continuing, Mr. Mills stated that the forecasting of likely crops did much harm through wrong publicity. This matter could be adjusted with the Empire Marketing Board, which was doing good work. He urged that only the best fruit be sent, and believed it would be possible to ship during a longer period than at present and still receive fair prices. He asked was it worth while in a year of plenty to take up shipping space with anything but the best fruit? As regards results of the Ottawa Conference, a long view was needed. It had to be remembered that duties had been placed on other fruits which would lessen their supplies, making the market firmer for Australian fruit. If desiring to replace American fruit, Canada would need to reverse her policy of cold storage, and in sending more into U.K. would leave the way open for importations of fruit into Canada. Whether from Australia or N.Z. was immaterial provided that reduced quantities were sent to U.K. during the peak period. It was necessary to get an Empire view of the industry and certain pin-pricking regulations would need to be reconsidered.

With regard to the fireblight question, Canada had been shipping Apples to England for many years, and no fireblight had appeared in England. Canada had a duty of 30 cents per bushel on Apples, which was increased to 80 cents during their harvest. Should Australia remove the restrictions on the importation of Canadian Apples, Canada would probably make the duty 80 cents per bushel continuously to allow the Empire to have that portion of the market, thus assisting to avoid gluts. Great Britain imported £80,000,000 worth of fruit annually. The idea had been expressed that if the Empire could supply the major portion of that quantity there would be an outlet for British surplus population to produce the goods. As a result of the duties imposed on certain fruits sent to U.K. there had been a reduction of imports and an increase of prices. He was confident that the Ottawa Conference was only the first of that character and there would be others in the future. There was now an Empire-mindedness among the English folk, a genuine feeling of kinship with the Dominions and a determination to work together. The Empire could supply 90 per cent. of the British market's requirements in fresh fruit.

With regard to advertising, Mr. Mills expressed pleasure at the excellent work accomplished. Mr. Hyland was indeed a wonderful man and deserved every commendation. Apart from the press and poster propaganda, Mr. Hyland arranged talks to schools and demonstrations of various kinds and assisted in the practical work of enabling retailers to obtain supplies from merchants. The amount devoted to advertising was well spent and good value had been received. In conclusion, Mr. Mills said that the work accomplished by Messrs. Bruce and Gullett and staff at the Ottawa Conference was indeed commendable. The case for Australia had been ably handled and not a false step had been made. Undoubtedly some who had attended the Conference had felt the strain. He was grieved to hear of the death of Mr. Sam McKay, who played a very important part in negotiations regarding manufactures and primary industries. Mr. Gullett was still suffering in health owing to the strain of the Ottawa Conference sessions. In 1932 the English trade had certainly had a bad season. American Apples would not be supplied unless paid for while there appeared to be constant dropping in the sterling rate, which meant an additional loss to the British buyer. At the next Empire Conference Australia should have more than one representative in connection with its big and important fruit industry. (Applause.)

The Hon. J. G. Latham proposed the health of the Chairman. In responding, Mr. Brown said that new world conditions had arisen, bringing with them entirely new problems which required entirely new thinking. Certainly we should not lose any lessons of the past, but we should bring to bear on our present-day problems entirely new and constructive thought. He thought this was the message of Ottawa as applied to economic conditions and to our indivilual lives. The old worship of traditionalism must pass and new thinking was needed to deal with the present unparalleled situation.

Walnut Grove at Orbost, Victoria.

There is now increased interest in the growing of Walnuts commercially. Special article next issue.

RE-WORKING FRUIT TREES.

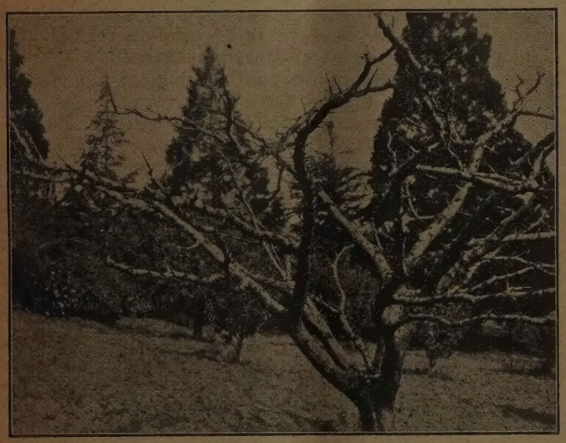
Interesting Comments from Tasmania.

Some helpful comments on the subject of re-working fruit trees are contained in a letter dated December 21, from Mr. Frank Walker, the well-known nurseryman and fruitgrower of Launceston, Tas. Mr. Walker writes as follows:—

"We noticed in a recent issue of the 'Fruit World,' you commented upon the Tasmanian system of re-working of large Apple trees to certain varieties now in demand.

"We enclose photo. of one of our trees re-worked this year. We have worked several acres of our orchard with very satisfactory results. The tree in the photo. was a Late Aromatic, from which we have repeatedly gathered from 26 to 33 bushels of exportable Apples. We have now worked this over to Democrat. This tree has over 1,700 scions put on to it, and are growing freely now with not more than 2 per cent. of failures.

"In the system adopted, no tying whatever is used, the scions are simply nailed on with ⅝ brad, and the wound



Apple tree, "Late Aromatic," grafted over to Democrat on November 15, 1932; 1,700 grafts; cost of regrafting £2. Photo. from Frank Walker, Lalla, Tasmania.

smeared over with petrol grease to exclude air and moisture, and it takes some time to complete, as our trees have averaged over 900 scions per tree, from some trees we have picked four bushels the first season, after working, and the second season many trees have yielded ten bushels, seeing that by this method there is no risk of losing the tree by die-back, and the orchard is rapidly converted to varieties best suited for our soil and district, and obsolete varieties cut out. We consider this a sound commercial proposition."

(We thank Mr. Walker for his letter and photo. of tree: photo. published on this page. Comments from other readers on this subject would be welcomed.—Editor "F.W.")

VICTORIA.

Tyabb.—A few orchards have heavy crops of Jonathan Apples, while the majority have good medium crops, there seems to be a tendency for the Apples to shed to a greater extent than usual, but the trees are looking in splendid condition, the season evidently having been favorable to growth of foliage.

The method of grafting over old fruit trees with a number of scions, which was highly recommended by growers from Tasmania, has not proved to be a success in this district, which is a great disappointment; a few grafts have grown away all right, but in most cases even though they started all right, they are failing to maintain the little start they then made.

Type of Export Case.—There appears to be some difficulty in finding out what is the best type of case to use for export; but it should be possible to get disinterested advice as to the type of case preferred by the British and Continental buyers, and then to ensure that such cases have suitable care taken of them in transit and loading by the railway companies and shipping companies.

HARCOURT'S GOOD PROSPECTS.

Most Apple varieties have set well at Harcourt, and a record year is expected. Up to the present, the export of fruit from Harcourt did not exceed 200,000 cases, but it is confidently expected that nearly 250,000 cases will be available for export in 1933. While the bulk of the shipments will be Apples, large parcels of Pears will be included in the export quota.

VICTORIAN APPLE AND PEAR CROP.

There will be bountiful crops of Apples throughout the State. Jonathans have had an irregular setting, but will probably show a 75 per cent. crop. Granny Smith have set well, and there has been a heavy thinning of Yates in some districts. The Mornington Peninsula and Harcourt especially have big crops in sight, and one Ringwood grower estimates his crop of Jonathans and Yates at 11,000 cases.

Except for late varieties, such as Packhams, Josephine and Winter Nelis, the Pear crop will be a little light. The estimated yields shown in the Agricultural Department's report are:—Apples, 3,500,000 bushels; Pears, 800,000 to 1,000,000 bushels.

Advice to Growers.

Mr. J. M. Ward, Superintendent of Horticulture, issues a warning to growers not to export little known varieties of Apples, as the higher prices obtained during the past few years have been for Granny Smith, Dunns, Cleos., and Jonathans. Prices for Apples, he considers, will not be high during 1933, but the exchange, coupled with less competition from America, should be of assistance in obtaining satisfactory prices, and it would be in the interests of growers to send at least one million cases of Apples overseas.

During the coming season, Mr. Ward continued, from 250,000 to 300,000 packages of Pears would probably be exported from Victoria. Every experienced Pear shipper was aware that pre-cooling of Pears before shipping was essential for good carriage. Unfortunately, however, there were still a few who attempted to beat the inspector, their fellow grower and themselves by making a pretence of pre-cooling, or by driving a load of Pears around the cool stores as a make-belief. Very often the difference in temperature between the pre-cooled Pears and the non-pre-cooled was 40 deg. Fahr., or more. It was a most unfair practice to their fellow growers and the industry as a whole. Should further attempts be made during the coming season to ship non-pre-cooled Pears, drastic action would be taken against offenders. Final inspection of all fruit was made at the ships' side.

THROUGH THE GOULBURN VALLEY.

(By Our Special Representative.)

THERE IS EVERY EVIDENCE of returning prosperity in the fertile Goulburn Valley. This has been brought about by the sound position of the canning industry, and fruitgrowers who have canning varieties of Peaches, Apricots, and Pears, are on good terms with the world in general and see a bright outlook for the future. The three canneries at Shepparton, Mooroopna, and Kyabram are all in a sound condition, and the men that guide the destinies of the industry are confident that the 1933 season will be an excellent one for all concerned.

In every district of the Goulburn Valley there has been a gradual cutting out of non-paying varieties, and the canning varieties (especially Pullar's Cling Peaches) are being extensively planted or re-worked with approved varieties.

It was noticed in some of the districts visited, that brown rot was prevalent and was causing much anxiety to growers. This was especially evident at the orchard of one of the largest growers in Ardmona. Some orchards bore evidence of the ravages of aphis, but in general, the orchards looked in excellent condition and were bearing heavy crops of Peaches and Pears. Apricots were light in some orchards, but the majority of those seen were bearing average crops.

It was rather a surprise to see Apples in this valley growing well and bearing good crops. More growers are putting in Apples, and the varieties favored are Granny Smith, Jonathans, Black Ben Davis, Gravenstein, and Mr. Gladstone. Tomatoes are also being more extensively grown this season, and there will be a good supply of high quality Tomatoes from Shepparton in future.

The growing of tobacco was extensively taken up last year, but there were many failures, and the area under tobacco for the 1933 season is much less than 1932. Some growers were successful and made considerable money out of the venture, but there are others who say they will never be tempted to try it again, and in future will confine their attention to fruit. Their failure was, in most cases, due to inexperience, and the result of the 1933 effort will no doubt be watched with considerable interest by everyone in the Goulburn Valley. Mr. A. Feiglin, of Orrvale, had five years' experience of tobacco growing in Palestine, but has not yet been tempted to try it here. Many of his neighbors are, however, experimenting with it, and some of their plots are doing well.

One of the best-looking tobacco crops seen by the writer was that of Mr. R. N. Roberts at Shepparton, who had ten acres of Dungowan leaf that looked in a particularly healthy condition. It was in the four-leaf stage early in December, and with ordinary luck should prove a very profitable venture. Mr. Roberts was successful last year with light leaf. He is a keen student and is watching every aspect of tobacco culture with an intelligent interest. He also cultivates twenty acres of canning fruits and citrus, so is well safeguarded should tobacco not come up to expectations.

The largest grower of tobacco last year was Mr. Murdoch, of Shepparton East. He has planted an increased area this year, which is ample evidence that he views the future of tobacco growing with confidence.

Last year 2,000 acres were planted with tobacco, but the acreage this year will probably be about 1,200 acres. Of the 350 tons of tobacco grown in the district last year 290 tons were sold, and proved profitable to growers. Many growers planted tobacco without any knowledge of the procedure, and several who harvested crops did not have proper kilns for drying the leaf, with the result that the leaf they grew is still on their hands, for it is unsaleable.

The citrus grower in the Goulburn Valley does not appear to be in the happy position of the grower of other fruits. The soil and subsoil do not appear to be as suitable for citrus as, say, the deep soils of the Murray Valley, and trees are to be seen dying out in many orchards. At Merrigum quite a lot of citrus has been dug out to make room for more profitable crops. Valencias are the chief variety of Oranges grown, and a very fair sample was marketed by Shepparton Fresh Fruit Ltd., a growers' company which has its packing house in the railway yard close to Shepparton railway station. It is from this packing house that much of the fresh fruit of the district is graded and packed for market.

One grower of Lemons complained of the wide margin between prices offered by factories for squash Lemons. One factory offered him £4 per ton, while another offered him £7 per ton. This grower did not consider it a payable proposition to grow Lemons under £10 per ton, and unless prices improve this year, he will cut out Lemons from his orchard. In his opinion, prices for squash Lemons should be fixed as in the case of canning fruits.

At Orrvale, close to Shepparton, there are twelve Jewish families engaged in fruitgrowing. Some of them have been in the district for twenty years. They have their own Synagogue and Rabbi, and retain the age-old customs brought with them from Palestine. They live in perfect harmony with their neighbors, and the growers of the district will tell you that the Jewish orchardists have little to learn in the art of producing good fruit. The younger generation of this Jewish community are typical Australians in speech and in their outlook on life. They also possess a ready tongue and a quick-witted repartee that is not usually found among lads of the same age in the country districts of Australia.

One Jewish family has prospered exceedingly, and now has casemaking factories at Orrvale, Mooroopna, Tatura and Koondrook. They also have sawmills at Powelltown and Millgrove to provide the timber for their factories. During the past two years these factories have been turning out a kiln-dried fruit case that is made from Mountain Ash, and its finished appearance has found for it a ready market. The output from their factories is now 300,000 cases annually.

Shepparton's Big Asset.

The forward strides that have been made by the Shepparton Fruit Preserving Co. Ltd. in recent years has been responsible for an extensive building programme at the cannery. Over £30,000 has been spent in improvements recently, and the cannery now covers five acres of floor space. Imposing brick fronts have been added and many departments have been extended to cope with increased output.

The directors of the company, of which Mr. A. W. Fairley is the chairman, deserve every credit for the manner in which they have handled the affairs of the cannery. Right through the depression period, this company as gone on improving its business, until to-day it gives the grower the best price he has ever been paid for his canning fruits. Last season the cannery paid the grower £15 per ton, which is £3 over the price fixed under the sugar agreement. This same price will probably be paid during 1933. During 1932 the company made a profit of £49,000, paid a dividend of 10 per cent., and bonus of 5 per cent. £30,000 was added to the reserve fund, which now stands at £120,000.

The shareholders in the company are mostly growers and residents of the town of Shepparton. 550 people are employed at the cannery in the peak of the season, most of them local residents. The wages usually paid annually amount to £42,000, and has been as high as £64,000. Since the commencement of operations in 1918 the cannery has produced eighty million tins of canned fruit, valued at £735,000, and the record output for one day is 230,000 tins.

Quantong.—A satisfactory crop of fruit is showing at Quantong, and arrangements are in hand for local distribution and export. The fruit is of excellent quality.

BERRY FRUITS.

Strawberry growers in the Silvan district, near Melbourne, had a peck of trouble this season. They had good crops, but experienced trouble with pickers over rates of pay. When this matter was settled, they met further trouble at the factories. The jam factories could not take half of the fruit offering, and much of it had to be wasted.

An advertising campaign by the Berry Growers' Association might be considered for next season if a repetition of the present conditions is to be avoided. More canned Strawberries would be eaten by the general public if attractive posters were placed on the hoardings of Melbourne.

The Gooseberry crop was a good one, and prices were satisfactory. Growers of this class of berry had one of the best seasons experienced for many years. A heavy Loganberry crop is now being harvested, and there is every prospect of profitable returns to growers if more publicity is given to this excellent fruit in future.

* * * * *

Cold Storing Berry Fruits.

Growers would do well to consider the question of storing berry fruits by freezing, thus making them available throughout the year for the baking and confectionery trade.

This plan works admirably in other parts of the world. Why not in Australia?

LOWER PRICES FOR JAMS AND CANNED FRUITS.

Although nothing definite has been announced regarding the reduction of prices of jams and canned fruits to operate during 1933, Mr. A. W. Fairley, Managing Director of the Shepparton Fruit Preserving Co., stated at the annual meeting of the company that reductions were certain to take place. An announcement will probably be made by the Canners' Association some time this month.

CANNED FRUIT EXPORTS.

The export of canned Australian Pears, Peaches, and Apricots during 1932 totalled 1,301,855 dozen tins. They were distributed as follows:—United Kingdom, 1,128,856 dozen tins; Canada, 61,190 dozen tins; New Zealand, 63,233 dozen tins; the East, 43,987 dozen tins; other countries, 4,589 dozen tins.

Export of Canned Apples.—The possibilities of developing an export trade in Australian canned Apples is receiving the attention of fruit canners in the mainland of Australia and Tasmania. Samples of American canned Apples are being sent to the Commonwealth so that the product can be examined. There is no reason to doubt but that Australian canned Apples would be quite equal, if not superior, to those from other countries.

West Australian Fruitgrowers.

Annual Conference.

Local and Export Marketing Discussed: Proposed Marketing Bill Opposed: Reduction in Overseas Freights Desired: The Fruit Case Question: Mr. J. B. Mills' Services at Ottawa Appreciated.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the West Australian Fruitgrowers' Association was held at the Town Hall, Albany, on Friday and Saturday, December 2 and 3, 1932, Mr. J. McN. Martin presiding.

The Secretary (Mr. A. T. Booth) reported having received a letter from the Minister for Agriculture, Mr. P. D. Ferguson, M.L.A., regretting his inability to open the Conference. Apologies for non-attendance were received from H. V. Piesse, M.L.C., A. Wansbrough, and R. S. Sampson, Ms.L.A., and R. Carter (Paterson & Co.).

The Mayor of Albany (Cr. W. T. Stead) officially opened the Conference. It was resolved that telegrams be sent to the Rev. Davis and F. E. S. Willmott, Bridgetown, regretting their inability to be present.

The annual report and balance-sheet were read and adopted, and the following motions were carried:—

That Conference request the Fruit Shippers' Committee to impress on the shipping people the necessity of:—(a) Shipping running to time-table; (b) keeping local agents properly informed of any alteration.

That Conference favor the appointment of a Transport Board or Commission on which the primary producer should have adequate representation to deal collectively with transport matters.

That attention be drawn to the high rail freight on fruit, affecting classes under the 4-ton minimum which incurred a further imposition of 15 per cent., and that a request be made for a reduction.

That the Fruit Shippers' Committee be asked to investigate overseas handling charges and freights, with a view to reduction of same.

That the Apple and Pear Export Council be asked to include in the agenda for the Conference the following resolutions:—

"That the fruit export regulations be amended that fruit cases for shipment be not passed where the ends of more than 5 per cent. of the total number of cases from a grower measure less than the size provided in width and that no case under the present 5 per cent. allowance be passed for shipment."

That Conference direct the attention of the Federal Government to the effect that duty on nitrogenous fertilisers had not yet been removed and ask that this should be carried out as soon as possible.

That Conference again urge the adequate supply of covered trucks for the coming export season and also a supply of suitable rolling stock for the carriage of fruit and other perishables.

That as the present Government is contemplating an Act with the object of establising Primary Products Marketing Boards, similar to those existing under the Queensland and New South Wales Acts, we should appoint a Vigilance Committee to watch this contemplated legislation and that the Executive of our Association should act as the proposed Committee.

That the Government and all members of Parliament representing fruitgrowing constituencies be advised that this Association is opposed to the introduction of any Marketing Bill dealing with fruit other than Grapes.

That the use of Australian dump cases for export fruit be affirmed and that the Executive Committee go into the question of improvement in the quality of the case.

That the Minister for Agriculture be informed that the West Australian Fruitgrowers' Association is the official mouthpiece of the growers of this State with the exception of Grapes.

That the former rate of freight on single bags of wheat for barter with fruit, potatoes, etc., be reintroduced by the Railways Department.

That the growers in this State are of the opinion that shipments of fruit to the English markets should be regulated so as to minimise the possibility of gluts and that this Conference discuss the matter with the object of having the matter dealt with through the proper channel.

That drawback of duty be asked for on corrugated cardboards and woodwool used for the packing of export fruit and that all Federal members representing our State be written to asking them to press this matter in the House.

That the Department of Agriculture be requested to take such steps as are necessary to deal with makers, merchants and growers who contravene the Fruit Cases Act.

That cool store proprietors be requested to reduce cool store charges.

That the Executive find out the approximate cost of growing and marketing a case of export fruit and itemising each cost with a view of suggesting reductions in costs and giving publicity to the disabilities of fruitgrowers.

That we request the Director of Agriculture to endeavour to amend the Plant Diseases Act as follows:—For the purposes of this section an orchard or part of orchard shall be deemed to be abandoned if for a period all trees thereon have not been cultivated or cared for in a bona-fide manner satisfactory to the Superintendent of Horticulture, the owner to have the right of appeal.

That Conference advocate that Savoy House be utilised for the sale and advertising W.A. Apples on the same lines as Australia House.

That the Executive be represented at a deputation to Chief Traffic Manager regarding night transport of fruit.

That a letter be sent to the Apples Sales Board congratulating them on the way the cool store fruit had been handled during the past season.

A vote of thanks was passed to Messrs. C. W. Wickens (Dept. Agriculture), G. L. Sutton, C. N. Wittenoon, M.L.C., A. Thompson, M.L.C., and A. E. Piesse, M.L.A., for their interest and attendance at the Conference. The Auditor, Mr. B. Hickling, was also thanked for his services.

A letter of thanks will be sent to the Apple and Pear Export Council for arranging for Mr. J. B. Mills to represent the industry at Ottawa. A letter of thanks will also be sent to Mr. Hooper, Chief Fruit Inspector at Fremantle, who retired recently.

The Chairman and Secretary were also tendered a hearty vote of thanks.

Election of Officers.

Mr. J. McN. Martin was re-elected President, and Mr. Lake Vice-President.

It was resolved that each Association should elect their own representative on the Executive Council, namely, three members for Mount Barker and one each for all other affiliated Associations, and that the names should be sent to the Secretary by the end of January.

Messrs. A. T. Booth and C. Simpson were appointed to represent the Association on the W.A. Organisation Board.

A recommendation was conveyed to the Executive that the next Conference be held at Donnybrook.

* * * * *

There was an enjoyable social function when delegates and visitors were entertained at dinner at the Freemasons' Hotel by the Albany Fruitgrowers' Association.

W.A. FRUIT CROP ESTIMATES.

Lighter Apple Crop Expected.

THE APPLE CROP in W. Australia this season is estimated by the Superintendent of Horticulture (Mr. G. W. Wickens) at 840,000 cases compared with 1,010,000 cases last season. The Pear crop is estimated at 120,000 cases, an increase of 12,250 cases, and a much larger stone fruit crop is anticipated. The estimates of the various crops, compared with production last season, are as follow:—

	1931-32. Cases.	1932-33. Cases.
Apples	1,010,943	840,000
Pears	107,850	120,000
Peaches	46,651	65,000
Nectarines	11,302	15,000
Apricots	36,407	50,000
Plums	59,772	70,000

In reference to Apple production, last season the Mount Barker-Albany district furnished the heaviest yield, but this season pride of place would be taken by the Donnybrook-Bridgetown area, the crop in the former are being much lighter, and in the latter area considerably heavier than in 1931-32.

A plague of thrips in 1930-31 was the cause of the Great Southern Apple orchards being out of step with those in other parts of the State. Though the loss in 1930-31 was very severe, the occurrence was not an unmixed evil so far as Western Australia was concerned, because it checked the violent annual fluctuations in Apple production which were becoming a most disturbing factor in marketing the fruit to advantage. To show the severity of the damage caused by thrips it was only necessary to mention that in 1930-31 the crop in the area extending from Cranbrook to Albany, and including orchards between Kalgan and Denmark, amounted to only 78,088 bushels. The yield of the same orchards in the following season was 476,293 bushels.

In all districts (continues Mr. Wickens), practically all varieties of Pear trees, with the exception of Doyenne du Comice, were carrying good crops; Bartletts and Winter Nelis being especially noticeable in this connection. Stone fruits—Apricots, Peaches, Nectarines and Plums—which during the past two seasons had been on the light side, were uniformly good this season.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Mt. Barker (7/12/32).—Fruit crops in this district will be approximately as follows:—Plums, Apricots, Peaches —Good to heavy.

Apples—Jonathans good, Cleos. light, Dunns very light, Yates, Romes, Doherties good, Rokewoods medium, Granny Smiths medium to good.

Pears—All varieties will be good.

On the whole, Apples are on the light side, due to the exceptionally heavy crop we had last year. Thrips were not in evidence during the main blossoming, but certainly got a few of the later blossoms, but not sufficient to be answerable for the light crop.

TASMANIAN STATE FRUIT ADVISORY BOARD.

A meeting of the Tasmanian State Fruit Advisory Board was held at Hobart on December 20, 1932. There were present:—Mr. B. J. Pearsall (Chairman), Hon. W. H. Calvert, Messrs. M. Calvert, F. W. Harrison, J. H. Astell, G. McGowan, A. Dickson, H. A. Court, E. Ross, J. P. Piggott, P. H. Thomas (Hon. Technical Adviser), A. J. Honey (Secretary). Apology from Mr. O. J. Morrisby.

The Chairman extended a welcome to the newly re-elected and elected members of the Board and to the representatives of the shipping agents, who suitably responded.

Appointment of Office-bearers.—Mr. B. J. Pearsall was reappointed Chairman. Mr. J. H. Astell was appointed deputy Chairman.

The Executive Committee was constituted thus:—The Chairman, Hon. W. H. Calvert, F. W. Harrison (reappointed), with the addition of Messrs. M. Calvert and E. Ross.

The following were appointed as delegates to the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council:—Mr. B. J. Pearsall, Hon. W. H. Calvert, Messrs. H. A. Court and F. W. Harrison—two to attend the January meeting (Messrs. Pearsall and Court), together with Hon. W. H. Calvert, who would be in Melbourne at the same time at his own expense.

The E.O.T.C. section of the Australian Overseas Transport Association advised that the Board's application for two additional representatives had been approved, and Messrs. M. Calvert and H. A. Court were appointed to attend, together with the Chairman.

Finance.—The Secretary tabled financial statements of the general fund and the defence fund, which showed a credit balance of £221/2/8 and £8,517/3/9 respectively.

Victorian Proposals.—The Secretary read a letter from the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association submitting suggestions for the financing of State and Federal organisation, the proposal being to return to the State an agreed upon proportion of the levy collected by the Federal authorities.

The Chairman said the proposal was not altogether a new one; he personally approved of the proposal, as it would help to solve the question of financing the Board's activities. On the motion of Messrs. Harrison and McGowan, it was decided to support the proposal at the Apple and Pear Export Council meeting.

The Chairman said the "Argyllshire" took nearly 200,000 cases: the fruit arrived in an unsatisfactory condition: the growers had a strong claim for recovery.

Mr. Pratt urged that the claim be left to the National Federation.

Mr. Burgess said the claim of the National Federation had been rejected by the shipowners. Legal opinion did not favor pressing the claim on the underwriters.

Mr. Piggott stated that the "Argyllshire's" refrigerating machinery did not work continuously: the full report of the surveyors was awaited. The defence fund should be made available to press the claims of the growers. Messrs. Astell, Davies, Shoobridge and Harrson favored the prosecution of the claim, and a resolution was adopted accordingly. The Chairman and Messrs. Piggott and Davies were appointed a Committee (with power to add) to take further action.

Weight of Fruit in Cases.—A resolution opposing the marking of the weight of fruit on cases was amended in favor of marking the count instead of the size.

T.O.P. Liquidation.—The Woodbridge Agricultural Bureau wrote urging the Board to test the legality of the Tasmanian Orchardists and Producers' Co-op. Association's refusal to pay growers money due to them on fruit shipped on consignment in 1932; also requesting legislation making trust accounts for primary produce compulsory.

Legal opinion was read stating that growers were entitled to a rebate on the shipping charges. Further, a large quantity of fruit was shipped f.o.b. Hobart and rejected in London, and it seemed obvious that the growers were entitled to be credited with the f.o.b. price for the fruit. A settlement out of Court was desired if possible. The Board was asked to express its attitude.

A letter from the Receiver stated that in due course the company would give a full explanation to its creditors and shareholders: he did not feel justified in divulging the company's business to any but his principals, and until the position was fully resolved, public statement should be deprecated.

On the motion of Messrs. Astell and McGowan, the matter was left to the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Representative for England.—The Tamar Farmers and Fruitgrowers' Association wrote regarding the appointment of a fruit representative in England, and asked if the offer of the Empire Marketing Board to assist in the expenses of a man to study fruit export problems in England was still open. It was decided to ask the Empire Marketing Board whether their offer was open to Tasmania.

Extended Shipping Season.—Mr. Piggott expressed agreement with the suggestion by the shipping companies for an extended shipping season, provided the extension applied to the mainland as well as Tasmania.

It was decided that an endeavour be made to enforce the stowing of cases on their ends to minimise bruising.

Brisbane Agents.—Messrs. Cooper Bros. were admitted to membership of the Brisbane selected agents.

TASMANIAN FRUIT CROPS.

Early forecasts for a heavy setting of Apples in Tasmania will not be realised, according to reports which have been issued by the Division of Horticulture. Sturmers, Jonathans, Alfristons, Granny Smiths, and C.O.P. appear to be holding moderate to good crops; Tasman Prides, Croftons, Cleos., Ribstons and Delicious are medium, and very patchy in some districts, and Scarlets, French Crabs, Democrats, and Dunns are light to medium.

With regard to Pears, Winter Coles and Glou Morceau are suffering from the effects of frosts. Other kinds appear to have set medium to heavy yields. As to stone fruits, Apricots have generally set good to medium crops. Plums are very irregular, and brown rot has developed in some districts, owing to the warm and humid weather during late October.

Ranelagh (12/12/32).—Crops this year are considerably lighter than was the case last year, Apples being about 60 per cent. to 70 per cent. of last season. Pears generally are good, although Williams are light.

S.T.P. are generally good; Jon., Cleo., F.C., S.P.M. are patchy.

Recent rains have been very beneficial, and the fruit is of excellent quality and growing well, but in orchards where care has not been taken with the spraying, spot is making its appearance.—Thos. A. Frankcomb.

Seasonable Orchard Practice.

Spraying and Spreaders—Cultivation—Irrigation—Cover Cropping.

Helpful Notes from New Zealand.

Use of Spreaders in Spray Mixtures.—The use of spreading agents in spray mixtures has now become almost universal practice. Spores, in many instances very tiny things, are liable to lodge on very minute spaces which may not be covered by spray, or insects may be protected by hairs, etc. A spreader, properly used, will overcome these difficulties and give complete cover to the tree to be protected or of the insect which it is hoped to kill.

Like everything else, spreaders must be used with intelligence, otherwise the opposite extreme may be experienced and too much of the spray may run off, with the result that a sufficient coating may not be left on the fruit, foliage, or wood to be toxic to insect or spore. The amount of spreader to use will depend mainly upon the materials to be applied, but also on the pressure maintained and the type of spray coming from the nozzle. It is safe practice to reduce the amount of spreader in the case of applying liquids (such as lime-sulphur) alone, or colloids (such as Ialine sulphur), whether alone or in combination. On the other hand, the dose should be increased where coarse solids such as arsenate of lead and some of the sulphurs are used.

Where an arsenate already containing a spreader is being used alone there should be no need to add any. Growers using this type of arsenate in conjunction with some of the sulphurs and lime-sulphur consider it an advantage to add a little spreader. Care must be taken, in combining Ialine sulphur and lime-sulphur with this arsenate of lead, against too much running-off of spray and the leaving of a considerable deposit near the tips of the leaves, even where only ½ lb. to the 100 gallons of spreader had been added.

Continuation of Spraying.—For most troubles the continuation of spraying will be necessary, but a little longer time may now be allowed between sprays if the weather is favorable. In the case of pip fruits it is very essential to obtain a good cover of arsenate of lead before the third week in January, so as to overcome the brood of codlin moth then hatching, if infection and stings are to be avoided. With some varieties, such as Ballarat Seedling, it is a wise precaution to shorten the time between applications in the New Year, as a safeguard against stings. With the January spray, if there is any appearance of leaf-hopper, add Black Leaf 40 at 1 pint to 100 gallons. In many orchards red mite will again be obtaining a hold. If no sulphur or lime-sulphur have been used, the use of red (winter) oil at a strength of two-thirds gallon in 100 gallons of water, or white (summer) oil at the strength recommended by the manufacturer, and, if necessary, repeated in ten to fourteen days, will, if the application is thorough, give good control of this pest.

Cultivation, Irrigation and Cover-cropping.—Orchards under clean cultivation will still, for a while, need continuous cultivation to keep down weeds, to conserve moisture, and to prepare the ground for cover-cropping. It is generally considerable that much of the spring dying-back trouble of stone fruit and Pears which occurs in some districts (including Central Otago) is due to the soil becoming too dry in late summer and autumn. In irrigable orchards this may be avoided, but only too frequently the stress of picking and marketing makes it difficult to spare labor to apply the water. Specially in the lighter shingly ground, which dries up quickly, it would be a payable proposition to employ additional labor to ensure that the requisite degree of moisture is retained in the soil.

The time of sowing cover-crops must vary according to local conditions. In most districts where temporary crops, such as Lupins, Partridge Peas, Scotch Tares, etc., are grown, March is a good time for sowing. In districts with a long winter and the liability of heavy frosts interfering with growth it is desirable to sow as early in January as possble, provided the soil is sufficiently moist for germination, so that there may be a sufficient bulk before the winter sets in. In dry areas where water is available, thoroughly soak the ground. When dry enough thoroughly work up the ground into a good seed-bed, sow the seed moderately deep, and give a light rolling to firm the ground and even the surface, so that there will be less soil exposed to drying winds. When the seed is sown there should be enough moisture in the soil to give it a good start and to tide the fruit trees and crop over until the young seedlings are well established, as it is unwise to irrigate before then.—W. R. Lloyd Williams, Orchard Instructor, Alexandra ("N.Z. Journal of Agriculture").

APPLE AND PEAR EXPORT.

What Can We Expect from Preference?

A booklet is to hand from Mr. H. G. Colombie, Melbourne, dated November, 1932, entitled, "What Can We Expect from Preference?" The writer deals in detail with the quantities of Apples and Pears exported to the U.K. and the Continent and shows the quantities coming on to the British markets from other sources. The question as to the benefit or otherwise of the British preference on Apples and Pears is debated. "Market values will continue to be determined, preference or no preference, by the inexorable laws of supply and demand which include total quantities shipped, distribution to distributors, quantities per steamer, condition, arrival, supplies of all fruits available on selling markets, conditions and purchasing powers of importing countries, etc."

The booklet concludes with suggestions that the period of supply be lengthened and greater co-ordination between the States as to the quantities shipped and the destinations also in seasons of heavy yields the non-packing of certain sizes or varieties or by stopping the export of third grade fruit. In the Apple and Pear Export Council the industry now had the machinery to adequately deal with the foregoing problems.

THE IMPORTANCE OF LONDON.

London has always been the centre of the Australian and New Zealand fruit trade, because sales can always be depended on for best quality fruit, at highest prices. Besides its own vast population, London supplies most of the seaside resorts. Vast numbers of tourists make London their headquarters and want the best of all produce.

Australian and N.Z. Fruit Export.

Review of 1932 Season.

A REVIEW OF THE 1932 Australian and New Zealand export season issued by F. W. Moore & Co. Ltd., London, is prefaced by the announcement of the death of the Chairman of Directors, Mr. F. W. J. Moore, O.B.E. For over 30 years Mr. Moore has been interested in the distribution of Australian fruit in the United Kingdom and on the Continent, and was recognised as an expert of great ability. He was honored by the King with the Order of the British Empire for his services in connection with the Empire Marketing Board and shortly before his death was appointed Vice-President of the British Association of Refrigeration. His death will be widely regretted.

The present Managing Director of the business is Sir R. Eccles-Snowden.

Year of Record Shipments.

The year was remarkable for two outstanding events. The first was the record shipments of Australian and New Zealand Apples of over six million cases, 4,600,000 from Australia and 1,470,000 from New Zealand.

The Australian figures showed an increase of 1,450,000 on the previous year, and nearly 420,000 cases more than the record year of 1930. Tasmania achieved its highest export record with 3,361,066 cases, while shipments from other parts of the Commonwealth fell short of the previous year by 100,000 cases. Tasmania also exported 131,301 cases of Pears. 102 vessels carried fruit to England from Australia and New Zealand, as against 84 last year.

A Flooded Market.

The second event of importance was the disastrous fall in prices due to the arrival of over a million cases within a fortnight, and among them being wasty cargoes which shook the confidence of buyers in Tasmanian fruit. The cargo of the "Navasota" contained much brown heart, that of the "Corrientes" and "Stirlingshire" showed unusual signs of bruising, due in many cases to tight packing, while of shipments that followed showed considerable waste through various causes. By April, 647,000 cases were landed. During May, another 2,000,000 had arrived, and in the six weeks that followed, heavy arrivals continued, with the result that at the end of June Tasmanian Apples were barely realising 5/- a bushel. It was not until well into July that a decline in arrivals, combined with better cargoes, brought about a tendency to firmness in the market.

Ships and Ports.

There was too much concentration on London, and other ports with good markets were not given sufficient attention. 3,600,000 cases were landed in London, while only 1,615,000 were unloaded at Liverpool, Hull, Manchester, and Glasgow. Avonmouth, the port of Bristol, should be made better use of, and Newcastle-on-Tyne would touch the northern markets from a new angle. Liverpool, although comparatively well served, received its shipments irregularly, with consequent complaints from Liverpool salesmen.

Size and Varieties.

There was at one period a definite trend of preference for Jonathans against Cleopatras. This was probably brought about by a shortage of Jonathans at the time. Luckily for growers, there is no suggestion that such a choice of variety is in any sense permanent.

The question of size and varieties has again cropped up, and importers are asking whether more cannot be done to keep out unwanted varieties. There were frequent complaints regarding the smallness of certain cooking Apples, of which too many were shipped. The ideal size is above 2⅜, and the minimum 2¼. Apples over 3 inches, however, carry badly, and are not popular with the trade, as they do not give the weight per case. The trade opinion in regard to dessert Apples is that they should not be under 2¼ in., nor over 2⅜ in., except in the case of Cox's and Worcester Pearmain, in which the minimum could well be 2 inches. The trade has also been urging that owing to the demoralising effect of unsaleable Apples on the market, it would be better for questionable fruit to remain unexported, instead of incurring overhead expenses in packing, shipping, etc., on Apples that drag down prices.

The British market cannot consume unlimited quantities of Tasmanian Apples. Its capacity is estimated at 250,000 cases per week. To what extent the Ottawa agreements and the prospective duty of 4/6 per cwt. on foreign Apples will benefit Australian fruit, is yet too early to estimate.

The prospects, as we see them, is that the American Apple will not be entirely eliminated, although late Americans will have to give way to early Tasmanians, and the Australian season will be extended further into the summer, cutting into the incoming Americans.

Bruising was worse than usual in the 1932 season. It was not admitted that all the bruising took place during discharge, but this was undoubtedly one cause, and it was strongly recommended that more care be given to unloading.

(To be Continued.)

Victorian Fruit at the Royal Albert Docks, London.

—Illus. by courtesy "Vic. Journal of Agriculture."

"SISALKRAFT"

Read These Testimonials—

INSULATION

Melbourne,
November 16, 1932.

Messrs. Henry Berry & Co. Pty., Ltd.,
568-580 Collins Street,
Melbourne, C.1.

Dear Sirs,

I have just completed supervising the building of large cool stores in South Yarra for the Australasian Jam Company, and have used 35,000 square feet of Sisalkraft which has proved highly satisfactory as a sheathing.

The cool stores are the most up to date and best insulated stores in Australia. They are fully electric, having electric drives for the compressor, fans and pumps. Electric thermometers have also been installed.

After six months of exhaustive testing in battery and brine rooms, leaving sections of Sisalkraft exposed to the extreme cold of a battery room and open to the brine and air, the material stood up perfectly and, when removed, could have been used again if necessary. These tests convinced me and I did not hesitate to place this present large order.

The materials I have used previously were being torn continually, making many repairs necessary. Using Sisalkraft no damage whatsoever occurred, and consequently no time or labour was taken up in repairing.

I can thoroughly recommend the use of this material for the above-mentioned purpose.

Yours faithfully,
(Sgd.) P. C. MARSH,
Consulting and Refrig. Engineer.

SHEATHING

Mills Ice Works,
Deakin Avenue, Mildura,
9th November, 1932.

Messrs. Henry Berry & Co. Pty. Ltd.

Dear Sirs,

Re **Sisalkraft for Cool Storage.**

I have much pleasure in informing you that I have used Sisalkraft for one of my Cool Storage Rooms for insulation in place of Cork, and find the results have been wonderful.

The Cool Storage Room Floor has 4 inches of Concrete, then two layers of Sisalkraft 90 x 90, with 4 inches of Concrete on top. I find this makes quite as good a job as 3 inches of Cork, and at a cost considerably less.

I have no hesitation in recommending Sisalkraft for Cool Storage Chambers.

Yours faithfully,
(Sgd) A. J. MILLS.

This room is of wood with sawdust between pine linings. Sisalkraft is attached to the inside only.

In the winter when the machinery was operating from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. there was still frost on the pipes in the Sisalkraft room in the morning, while those in cork lined concrete rooms were dry.

PRICES—in rolls 3, 4 and 5 feet wide and 100 yards long:—

30/30 .. 8/9 per 100 square feet.
60/60 .. 11/6 per 100 square feet.
Cut lengths 6d. per 100 square feet extra.

Full Details from—

HENRY BERRY & CO. PTY. LTD.

568-580 Collins Street, Melbourne, C.1.

Cold Storage In Australasia

In response to many requests, the "Fruit World" is now reserving this special Fruit Cool Storage Section to deal with the every-day problems of the cool store manager and refrigerating engineer, from whom enquiries are invited. Practical cool storage notes of interest are also invited from readers. Address correspondence to Practical Refrigeration Department, "The Fruit World," Box 1944, G.P.O., Melbourne, or 439 Kent-street, Sydney, N.S.W.

A.J.C. COOL STORE.

Big Enterprise at South Yarra, Vic.

VICTORIA'S MOST MODERN fruit cool stores are just being completed at South Yarra for the Australasian Jam Co. Pty. Ltd. They have been built and equipped by Mr. P. C. Marsh, refrigerating engineer, of Hobart, Tas., from his own design. Mr. Marsh has to his credit practically all the leading stores of Tasmania, and the cool stores herein described have been most favorably commented on by experts.

The stores have a capacity of approximately 50,000 cases, and are built of brick with a fibro corrugated cement roof. They have been most expeditiously built, less than four months being occupied in their erection, over 250,000 bricks being used, and were all laid in cement mortar in 25 working days. (Incidentally, this quantity of bricks is sufficient to build from 7 to 8 six-roomed villas.)

The building is divided into seven chambers and two air-batteries, together with a large Pear ripening room and a covered receiving platform running the full length of the building, which is 195 ft. long.

The building is thoroughly insulated with "Austral" cork board. The floors are of concrete, and walls cement plaster finish. One chamber is of the direct expansion type, and is heavily piped with twin coils, so that it can be used either for cooling or freezing.

35,000 sq. ft. of the Australian-made product known as "Sisalkraft" was used for sheathing purposes.

The other six rooms have a most complete system of air circulation, which after thorough investigation by the company's engineers they believe to be the best for fruit storage, and which Mr. Marsh claims from experience gained of the cool storing of some millions of cases of fruit under his system in various stores, can be done with less compressor power and a greater evenness of temperature in the room.

Some of the points which attracted favorable notice were:—

The thoroughness of the distribution of the air, and the fact that every particle of air introduced into the rooms must do its share of the cooling before leaving the rooms. This obviously means that a minimum amount of air circulating in the room is required, which eliminates the danger of fruit shrinkage.

The complete control of each room independently.

The compactness and shortness of all main feeder and return air ducts.

The slow running double discharge fans.

The central and efficient batteries.

The air changing system.

The quick-acting pivoted doors with double seals. Also the convenient layout of the building.

It was also noted that four of the rooms have an alternative air system, which has been installed so that if rooms should be let at any time, hirers can please themselves as to which system they use.

The store is fully electrically equipped and is electric lighted with indicator lamps attached to each room. The pumps and fans are all electrically driven, no belts being used.

The engine or compressor room is detached and is splendidly finished; it is built of brick with flat reinforced concrete roof. It is tile finished on the walls and compressor bed with red paved floor, is well lighted and ventilated, and is dustproof. It is also fitted with an exhaust fan. It contains the compressor which is an English Lightfoot high speed machine. The condenser pump and motor are also situated here, together with a complete set of coil headers and controls, and in addition to the usual gauges, a complete system of thermometer control is being installed.

Behind a glass partition is a large switchboard, which is a very fine piece of work and was made in the company's own workshop. From this board the engineer running the cool stores will have complete control of the store, starting and stopping all motors, fans, pumps, etc., from this position, and he can see at a glance that all is well with them. On the switchboard is also a Siemens long distance electric thermometer, which points to all chambers, the inlet ducts and condenser water.

For logging and time-keeping, there is also fitted one of the latest electric clocks, which is regulated and controlled from Yallourn power-house. The pipes and connections and electric light and power wires from engine-room to cool stores are all laid underground in a concrete conduit. The condenser and water tower is built on the concrete roof of engine-room and is a massive structure.

Provision has been made throughout the store and plant for future extensions to be made with a minimum of alterations to the existing plant.

This store demonstrates the great advance that is being made in refrigeration and the use of electricity, and is one that all concerned should be proud of.

50,000-case cool store at the Australasian Jam Co. Pty. Ltd., South Yarra, Vic.

Marketing of Citrus Fruits in Canada.

(By C. G. Savage, R.D.A., Director of Fruit Culture, Department of Agriculture, N.S.W.)

An Address Broadcast Over 2FC, Sydney, on 29/12/32.

THE COMMERCIAL EXPORT of citrus fruits to Canada commenced in 1928, when 1,317 boxes of Oranges of 1½ bushels capacity were shipped to Vancouver. The following season, some 4,995 cases Oranges and 76 cases Lemons were exported. The results of the shipments were not entirely satisfactory, some parcels arriving in splendid order, while others arrived in a wasty condition, but on the whole, most of the shipments were satisfactory.

Encouraged by the success of the shipments, other exporters entered the trade, and in 1931 there were exported 25,460 cases Oranges, 2,715 cases Lemons, and 24 cases Mandarins. The fruit was not all packed through central packing houses, some being packed at private groves, with the result that that selection, treatment and packing of the fruit were not uniform.

The fruit carried fairly satisfactorily in several of the shipments, while in others it arrived in a wasty condition. The fruit was handled by several agents at Vancouver, with varying results, but on the whole the returns received were not satisfactory.

Unfortunately, Valencia Oranges were sent too early in the season, the fruit still being sour and lacking in juice. These Oranges did a great deal of harm to the export trade, as the Canadian buyers have become very suspicious of the Australian fruit, being of the opinion that it is all sour.

Owing to the unsatisfactory state of the export trade, arrangements were made for the speaker to visit Canada during the present season, to make enquiries into the requirements of the market, with the object in view of making recommendations to place the trade upon a satisfactory footing.

The first two shipments of fruit to Vancouver this season consisted of Washington Navel Oranges and Lemons. The Oranges arrived in excellent condition, were bright in appearance, on the whole well packed, though buyers still complained that the pack was somewhat slack. The flavor of the fruit was very good, though a little tart; the juice content was satisfactory. The Lemons, on the whole, carried fairly well, though there was a fair amount of wastage in some cases. Unfortunately, in the third shipment some of the Mediterranean Sweet Oranges arrived in an unsatisfactory condition, the common Oranges and Lemons carried very well, as did also the Valencias, but fruit of the last-named variety was sour. The fourth shipment, which arrived in Vancouver in October, consisted mainly of Valencias and Lemons. The same criticism was again given that the Valencias were sour and lacking in juice.

The Oranges were all packed in the export Orange case, but though some packers used the standard Lemon box, others shipped Lemons in the Orange box.

Summing up the position, exporters must take the following points into consideration if a satisfactory trade in citrus fruits is to be built up on the Western side of Canada:—

(a) Restrict the Number of Exporters.

It is essential that the fruit exported should be uniform in quality and packing. This can only be brought about by packing the fruit at central packing houses, as individual effort will result in variation of both quality and get-up of the pack. Multiplicity of brands on the Vancouver market will only cause confusion. The market to be found in Western Canada is not large, consequently the concentration of effort is essential to see that the fruit is graded and packed on uniform lines. The merchants in Vancouver were unanimous that at present the shipments of Navel Oranges from Australia should be restricted to 2,000 to 2,500 cases per month during June, July and August, but the supply of Lemons could be greatly increased. It will be realised from this that with the extent of trade available, a large number of exporters is not justified, if the export of citrus fruits to Vancouver is going to be developed on satisfactory lines.

(b) Limitation of Agents at Vancouver.

There is no justification for appointing several agents in Canada, greater success in satisfactorily establishing the export of citrus fruits will be brought about by limiting the number of selling agents to one or two. In this connection, it is interesting to learn that the establishing of the export trade of Satsuma Mandarins to Canada from Japan was brought about by restricting the number of exporters and selling agents, and by paying strict attention to the selection, packing and handling of the fruit.

(c) Maturity and Juice Standards.

The trade demands a high quality fruit with a sweet flavour and high juice content. The present Australian maturity standard for Navel Oranges appears satisfactory, but the standard for Valencia Oranges should be raised, to prevent the shipping of sour fruit. The shipping of sour Oranges has created the impression that Australian Oranges are sour; therefore, in order to win the confidence of the consumer, only fruit which contains a reasonable amount of sugar should be exported.

The Canadians consume the bulk of their Oranges as juice, and do not eat the fruit, as is done in Australia. It is essential, therefore, if satisfactory trade is to be built up, that only fruit with a high juice content should be shipped. The present Australian juice standard is too low. The regulation stipulates that the Orange should contain at least 25 per cent. of juice by weight. It will be readily understood that should the Orange, through some cause, begin to dry out, the weight of the fruit decreases, consequently the quantity of juice required to meet the 25 per cent. will be less than if the fruit were in a normal condition. In order to prevent the export of Oranges, lacking in juice, the juice standard should be raised to at least 35 per cent. or even 40 per cent. These percentages, which appear high, can easily be met with normal fruits.

(d) Handling and Processing of Oranges.

The first essential in the successful carriage of Oranges is careful handling. Every care should be exercised to see that the fruit is not damaged in any way during picking and delivering to the packing house. Every fruit should be carefully clipped from the trees, and the stem cut off level with the button. The fruit should be passed through a disinfecting solution such as borax, bi-carbonate of soda or hypo-clor. The first two solutions are usually heated to about 110 deg. F., while the last solution is used cold. The Oranges then pass through a rinsing or cleaning tank containing a solution of some soap compound. From there they are passed over a

series of brushes on to which jets of cold water are playing. The fruit is then conveyed through a drying chamber, after which it should be waxed. There are two systems of waxing fruit, one by what is termed the "Fog" method, which consists of passing the fruit through a heated chamber, in the first portion of which a mist of hot paraffin wax is maintained. After passing through the fog of hot wax, the fruit is taken over the polishing brushes. The second system is known as the "Cold Wax" method, and consists of passing the fruit over a series of brushes, which are in contact with slabs of hard paraffin wax. From the waxing brushes, the Oranges are conveyed over the polishing brushes. After polishing, the fruit is graded, sized and packed.

Attention has previously been drawn to the criticism that the Australian Orange, count for count, is smaller than the Californian. Enquiries show that the diameter of the fruit in the various counts is the same when the fruit is packed in both countries. The reason for the fruit from Australia being somewhat smaller on arrival in Canada is, no doubt, due to a certain amount of shrivelling that takes place en route. The waxing of the Oranges will tend to reduce the shrivelling to a minimum, and give the fruit a bright appearance, thus placing the fruit on an equal basis with that of our competitors.

(e) Curing of Lemons.

Attention has already been drawn to the fact that there is a good market for greater quantities of Lemons. While this is so, every care must be taken to see that the fruit is placed on the market in the condition and package that is most acceptable. The Australian Lemon, for the most part, has been exported as a fresh Lemon, and in consequence is arriving with a certain percentage of wastage in each case. The Californian is showing to advantage, as the fruit is all cured, the loss by decay is reduced to a minimum, and the juice content is higher. The Californian Lemon was selling in Canada at 2 to 3 dollars a box above the price obtained for Australian fruit. There appears to be no reason why this higher price should not be obtained for our fruit, provided the Lemons are properly cured before shipping.

For the successful curing of Lemons, the erection of a special curing room is desirable. The temperature of the room is controlled, and is held around 50 deg. F., while the humidity is maintained at about 90 per cent. Ethylene gas is introduced into the rooms twice a day, in early morning and late afternoon, at the rate of one part of ethylene to each 5,000 cubic feet of air space in the chamber. The air is kept in circulation during the curing process, fresh air being introduced more or less continually. The curing process will take from four to six weeks. The Lemons, prior to being placed in the curing rooms are passed through a washer to remove any dirt that may be adhering to them, but the fruit is not disinfected or waxed.

(f) Packing.

In packing the fruit, printed wraps should be used, and the wraps should be so placed on the fruit that the brand will show through the slits between the side slats, and the top layer should have the brands uppermost.

The Oranges should be packed in the Orange box, with dimensions of 24in. x 11½in. x 11½in., and the Lemon in the standard Lemon box, the measurements of 25in. x 13in. x 10in.

These figures are internal measurements clear of the central division.

To ensure that the fruit is marketed in the best possible manner, the creation of an Australian Citrus Export Board should be seriously considered. This Board should be composed of growers and shippers, and no citrus fruit should be allowed to be exported except through the Board.

The foregoing remarks have been prepared mainly in connection with the export of citrus fruits to Western Canada, but they will apply to the export of fruit to other countries.

While the trade with Western Canada is being developed, attention is drawn to the fact that the largest market in Canada is in the East. Unfortunately, the shipping facilities between Australia and Eastern Canada are not satisfactory for the transport of fruits at the present time, but the shipping company is prepared to consider the obtaining of suitable boats for the trade if growers and shippers will guarantee to export definite quantities of fruit.

CITRUS FOR EXPORT.

Paraffin Spray Not Suitable for Navels.

THE PROGRESS REPORT of the Citrus Preservation Committee, which comprises representatives of the Council for Scientific Research, the Central Citrus Association, Department of Agriculture, and Victorian Railways, has been issued and provides interesting reading.

This Committee has been experimenting for four years, with both Navel and Valencia Oranges, in the use of preservative solutions (notably borax 5 per cent., and sodium bicarbonate 2.5 per cent. and 5 per cent., and the subsequent coating of the fruit with a film of paraffin wax). Other solutions have also been employed, including sodium sulphite, salicylic acid, and benzoic acid, but these have had no definite effect. The experiments have confirmed the opinion that the advantages to be gained by handling all fruit carefully are considerable. Washing with 5 per cent. borax solutions, or with either 2.5 per cent. or 5 per cent. sodium carbonate solutions has not shown that it definitely prolongs the life of the Navel Oranges, but with Valencia Oranges washing with borax had a definite effect in reducing the incidence of stem and rot (alternaria), the chief cause of wastage after two or three months' storage. Sodium bicarbonate, on the other hand, has shown no consistent result in this direction with Valencia Oranges.

Spraying with paraffin proved to be, in some cases, definitely dangerous for Navel Oranges, but had certain beneficial results on Valencia Oranges. But it is improbable that the advantages to be gained justify the installation of the necessary apparatus.

Taken over the four years, 38 deg. Fahr. has been found to be the most satisfactory temperature for storage. The Committee does not advise the cool storage of Navel Oranges for longer than five weeks, but Valencias, with reasonable care, may be kept three months. Export of Navel Oranges should be confined to ports within three weeks' steaming distance, but the export of Valencia Oranges to further ports would present no serious difficulty.

H. Carpenter & Co.
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PIPING NEW and SECONDHAND.
All sizes, Black and Galv., 2ft. lengths for Irrigation.
Pumps, Windmills, Etc.
Low Prices Quoted.

New South Wales.

CITRUS CONVENTION.

At the Citrus Convention to be held at Gosford, N.S.W., on January 17, 18, 19, the Federal Citrus Council of Australia will have the support of the Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W. Many matters will be dealt with, including a comprehensive report by Mr. C. G. Savage on his recent trip to America.

Growers proposing to attend the Convention are requested to advise the Secretary of the Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W. (Mr. E. E. Herrod) in order that the necessary arrangements may be made.

N.S.W. CITRUS GROWERS WANT BOUNTY.

A MEETING OF CITRUS GROWERS held at Lisarow, N.S.W., on December 16, deplored the present state of the industry in that State, and some trenchant remarks were made.

The meeting, which was convened to consider ways of raising a sum to guarantee fruit exporters, decided to recommend a levy of 1d. per case on growers of all citrus fruits marketed, and to ask the Federal Government to arrange a bounty equal to £1,500 per annum.

Mr. C. Morrison, managing director of Gosford District Co-operative Packing Co., said that by 1936 the available surplus for export would be not less than 1,000,000 cases. Last year only 20,000 cases had been exported.

NEW SOUTH WALES CROP PROSPECTS.

DRYING AND CANNING operations will probably absorb the bulk of the Apricot crop in the Murrumbidgee irrigation area. Leaf curl was responsible for heavy shedding of Peaches, but a good crop will be harvested.

It is not possible to indicate prospects for Washington Navels owing to the heavy fall of young fruit. Valencias will set only a light crop.

At Curlwaa Apricots and Peaches will yield heavily.

Small quantities of Allsopp and Carrington Apples from the coastal areas are now being marketed. Increased consignments may be expected this month. Plums are heavy, but the fruit is on the small side this year. Early varieties of Peaches are also under sized.

There are good to heavy settings of Navels in the costal areas. The same applies to Valencias and Mandarins, but it is yet too early to definitely indicate crop prospects.

Many citrus growers are top-working commons to other varieties in the Gosford district. Some growers are rooting out both commons and Mandarins. Good crops of summer Lemons are in sight at Gosford, but in other localities summer fruit is scarce.

Good spring rains greatly benefited the Dubbo-Forbes-Narromine districts, and Navels have good crops, while Valencias and commons are medium to good. Mandarins set medium to heavy, and Lemons will have light to medium crops.

Supplies of Bananas continue to increase from Murwillumbah. Considerable planting has been taking place, permits for approximately 2,000 acres have been issued this season. During October 28,000 cases were loaded at Murwillumbah. This was increased by 31,000 during November. Further consignments will be still heavier.

A hailstorm was responsible for severe damage at Coff's Harbor at the end of November. Nevertheless, supplies of Bananas from this district will show an increase during succeeding months.

There is a fair crop of Passion Fruit ripening at Lismore. From the Tweed increased supplies are coming, and new areas at Coff's Harbor are carrying good crops. Thirty acres of Passions are now being grown near Sawtell.

Vines are making a satisfactory showing, and a big vintage is anticipated in the wine-producing centres.

Forecast of Apple and Pear Crops.

THE FOLLOWING FORECAST has been issued by the State Marketing Bureau, Department of Agriculture:—Apples, 1,933,000 bushels; Pears, 507,000 bushels. The forecast refers to the full yields of Apples and Pears without regard to the quantities that will actually be marketed.

The yields of the main Apple varieties are estimated as follows:—Granny Smith, 497,000 bushels; Jonathan, 398,000; London Pippin, 157,000; Rome Beauty, 153,000; Delicious, 89,000; Tasma, 81,000; Gravenstein, 87,000; McIntosh, 73,000.

Chief Pear varieties are:—Williams, 199,000 bushels; Packham, 101,000; Winter Cole, 50,000; Beurre Bosc, 39,000; Beurre de Cap, 20,000; Howells, 15,000; Josephine, 13,000; Winter Nelis, 11,000.

Indications of good Apple crops are to be seen at Armidale-Kentucky, Bathurst-Blue Mountains, Batlow, Goulburn, Moss Vale-Burradoo, Orange, and the Murrumbidgee irrigation area.

At Young, Granny Smiths show best crops. Other varieties are light. Hail in November did considerable damage.

There was considerable shedding of Pears at Armidale-Kentucky, and some varieties carry light crops, particularly Packhams and Winter Nelis. Beurre Bosc and Williams carry good crops. Batlow has good crops of Williams, Winter Cole and Howells, but in Bathurst-Blue Mountains crops are medium to light in all varieties.

At Goulburn Williams are carrying best crops. Other varieties will only be fair. With the exception of Keiffers, the Pear crop at Mossvale promises satisfactory results. At Orange there is a heavy shedding of all varieties, Beurre de Cap, Beurre Bosc, Howells, and Winter Nelis show best prospects.

At Young, Williams, Packhams and Winter Cole have best prospects, other varieties are moderate. In the Murrumbidgee area, the best crops will be Williams and Packhams. Other varieties will also produce satisfactory results.

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We will be pleased to give advice and details for any suggested pumping scheme.

Manufacturers of

The "Bave-U" Power Sprayer

BOX HILL, E 11, Victoria.

New Zealand.

CITRUS CULTURE IN NEW ZEALAND.

Where citrus trees have blossomed, a good crop can be spoiled should growers not realise they have the most important part to play if the crop is to be brought to maturity in a proper manner.

Manuring.—The heavy flowering and strain of setting the fruit and developing the pip make a fairly heavy drain upon the trees. A good deal of the ready available fertilisers will have been used up, and it will therefore be necessary to make a further application of some nitrogenous manure, such as sulphate of ammonia or nitrate of soda. This could be applied at the rate of about 2 lb. per tree, and if worked into the soil would become immediately available. The quantity to be used largely depends upon the age and size of trees, also on the amount of fruit that is promising. Individual trees should always receive due consideration.

Cultivation.—This should not be neglected, especially during periods of limited rainfall. Every effort should be made to conserve the moisture in the soil, as wood-production and fruit-development place considerable strain upon the trees, and nothing should be left undone that will assist them to function in a proper manner.

Young Trees.—These should be gone over to remove any shoots starting low down on the stem. Trees only a few years planted will now be making heavy growth. Any very strong perpendicular shoots that will not be required for the framework should be cut back to induce side growth, or if wanted for formation work the growth should be lightly tipped to ensure stability.

Pests and Diseases.—Young borers will now be active, and should be treated before their operations become extensive: they can be located by their castings. Where small twigs only are infected these should be removed and burnt, and the larger ones treated by injecting benzine into the holes and plugging them with soap or putty. Spray with Bordeaux where necessary for the control of verrucosis and grey scab. Where scale are troublesome the trees should receive an application of oil. The white oils have proved the most effective for the control of scale, and approved brands can be used at a strength of 1—60 during November, December, and January, provided none of the sulphur sprays have previously been used on the trees.—L. Paynter, Orchard Instructor, Auckland, in "N.Z. Journal of Agriculture."

Ettrick, Otago (25/11/32).—With reference to the main fruits grown in this district, approximately 400 acres are planted in Apple trees, and a fair quantity of Pears also being grown, together with stone fruits of all varieties.

The Apple is the main fruit grown, the principal varieties being Cox's Orange, Dunns, Jon., Cleo., Del., Newtown Pippin, Lord Wolsely, Scarlet Nonpareil, Sturmer, Winesap, Statesman, and Democrat.

The main varieties of Pears are Winter Cole, Winter Nelis, Williams, and Doyenne du Comice. In stone fruits practically any variety can be grown, either in Plums, Apricots, Nectarines or Peaches, and all fruits can be grown remarkably well.

The present crop prospects are good for all classes of fruit: Apples promise to be heavy, and with favorable weather this district should export about 80,000 cases of Apples and Pears. The Ettrick district is the chief Apple exporting district of the Otago province, and has proved to grow some of the finest Apples in the Dominion. The growers are active, live men and attend to their orchards in a first-class manner; this fact, coupled with the fine climate of Central Otago, has the effect of growing a high quality fruit, which is always keenly enquired for in London.

Already f.o.b. buyers are active in the district, and growers may consider this method of disposing of their crop as against selling on consignment as has generally been the practice in past years.

Several growers have now installed the

stationary spraying plants,

and all agree that the work under this system can be done more quickly, more efficiently and with less cost, the saving in time alone being an item not to be overlooked.

Many Strawberries are grown in this district, one grower having an area of 8 acres in this fruit. Strawberries are now being marketed, the season this year having commenced fully a fortnight earlier than usual, due to the warm, favorable weather experienced right through the spring. Strawberry growers are at present having a busy time picking and maketing their fruit.

Cherries are also grown here, and although the crop is not as heavy this year as last, growers expect that the fruit will be larger, thus making up for the crop being a little lighter. One grower last season marketed twelve and a half tons of Cherries; this grower has the whole of his block of Cherry trees netted in as protection against the birds.

In conclusion, providing the present favorable weather conditions continue, the fruit crop generally in the Ettrick district should prove to be one of the best yet experienced, as the orchards are well kept, diseases and pests are kept down, manuring has been carried out, and generally the trees are in great heart.—Jas. Cockburn.

Hastings (1/12/32).—The crop prospects for the coming season are not as good as last year.

Apples in many instances are very patchy, and in some orchards Sturmer and Delicious have a very light crop. Due no doubt to the heavy crop last year, and the dry weather in the early part of the season, the buds did not develop, and consequently broke to leaf instead of blossom. I should estimate our crop will be down from 15 per cent. to 20 per cent. on the past year.

Interesting New Varieties.

Items of particular interest in the district are new varieties.

A **Red Cox's Orange Pippin** made its appearance in the Poverty Bay district a few years ago, and when seen by one of our growers a couple of years ago created a very favorable impression. As a result of that, quite a quantity of grafting wood was purchased last pruning season by a number of our growers, and trees worked over last spring. It will be interesting to watch developments in the next three or four years.

Another innovation is a **red Delicious.** This Apple made its appearance in a Hastings orchard about five or six years ago. Last year a small group of growers purchased the rights of this Apple, and are working over quite large numbers of trees. It is expected that grafting wood will be available after next pruning season. This is a very highly colored Apple, with an excellent Delicious flavor, and an excellent keeper. Quite recently some fruits have been taken from cool store, after eight months, and were in perfect condition, and had retained almost their full

NEW ZEALAND.

flavor. This was rather surprising, as the fruits were picked from very young, vigorous trees, and were large sizes.

The famous "Richered" American Apple will have to be something "right out of the box" if it is going to hold its own with this new Delicious sport.

So far this Apple has not been named, but will receive its christening at an early date.—Ralph Paynter.

ORCHARD SPRAYS.

Attention is drawn to the well-known "Rosebery" Australian-made orchard spraying outfits. The two-wheeled portable outfit in particular is a splendid spraying unit, and is thoroughly self-contained with its engine, high-pressure pump, and vat, all mounted on the one transport. It is convenient for moving about in the rows, and is capable of dealing with a large number of trees per day. A power-driven agitator keeps the spray liquid well stirred up whilst the plant is at work.

Numerous other "Rosebery" spray pumps for operating by hand are available and admirably meet requirements of the smaller man. All types of "Rosebery" pumps for delivering water for irrigation purposes and for house supplies, are also handled by this company.

One of their most important lines is the remarkable "Shave" Super Plough, which is well known and used throughout Australia and other parts of the world. It has reversible discs, which can be swung over at the end of each furrow—which arrangement saves much valuable time and also reduces headlands.

A special attachment can be supplied to enable the super plough to work up close to trees, this device being particularly popular with orchardists.

Another of Dalgety's lines is the new "Stenning" rabbit fumigator, a most ingenious and effective apparatus for dealing with this pest. Further information is obtainable on application to the company.

Give thy friend counsel wisely and charitably, but leave him to his liberty whether he will follow thee or no; and be not angry if thy counsel be rejected, for advice is no empire, and he is not my friend that will be my judge whether I will or no.—Jeremy Taylor.

"Did Clarence propose to you in flowery language?"
"Yes; but I nipped it in the bud."

South Australia.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CROP PROSPECTS.

(By Geo. Quinn, S.A. Chief Horticultural Instructor.)

IN THE APPLE DISTRICTS north of Adelaide crops are generally reported to be light. In the northern portion of Mt. Lofty Ranges there will probably be 50 per cent. of a normal yield. In the southern area of the ranges Rome Beauty is carrying good crops. Other sorts also promise a fair yield. South-eastern districts will be light, about 25 per cent. of a normal yield.

For an "off" year, the crop for the whole of the State will be better than was expected. The gross yield should be between 400,000 and 500,000 cases.

Pears north of Adelaide are medium to light, and in Mt. Lofty Ranges the estimate ranges from good in the south, to 60 per cent. of normal in the north. South-east crop is half of normal, while Murray Valley promises a fair yield, principally W.B.C.

Plums and Prunes promised well, but the final setting figures are much reduced and there will be about 75 per cent. of a normal crop, which is usually about 145,000 bushels.

The yield of Apricots and Peaches is an average one, and the same applies to Nectarines. Quinces are reported to be fair to good, and berry fruits more abundant than usual.

Following on two successive good crops, it is anticipated that the yield of Navels will be below normal. Lemons promise an average crop of 35,000 cases. The average Orange yield is round about 400,000 bushels. Of other types of citrus, the Pomelo is receiving most attention by growers.

With the exceptions displayed by a few small isolated frost-injured areas, Grape vines of all kinds in all districts of this State are in wonderful heart and promise from fair to heavy yields. Along the Murray Valley Sultanas are extremely promising for a crop well above the average. Currants, on the other hand, are scarcely up to normal, but improved quality may make up the anticipated deficiency. Gordos and Doradillos promise to exceed the average by from 10 to 20 per cent. From present appearances it is estimated the vines look capable of producing 12,000,000 gallons of wine; 7,000 tons of Sultana raisins; 1,500 tons of Lexias, and approximately 7,000 tons of Currants.

Herbert Wilson
Pty. Ltd.
Wholesale Fruit Merchants and Commission Agents
Nos. 1 and 10 Wholesale Fruit Market Melbourne.
Accredited Agents for Victorian Central Citrus Association and Affiliated Association.
Bankers: *National Bank of Australasia.* (Western Branch) Melbourne.
City Telephone F6444.
Private 'Phone M3055.

Tasmanian Apples
Orders for Apples carefully handled and undertaken for all Overseas & Interstate Markets.
E. R. COTTIER Pty. Ltd.
Temple Place, Macquarie Street
HOBART - - TASMANIA
Tel. add. "ERCOT," Hobart.
Consignment shipments solicited on behalf of leading Fruit Brokers and Salesmen throughout England and Continent.

RIDLEY & HOULDING
Covent Garden Market, LONDON
Specialists in Australian Fruit.
Solicit consignments of Apples, Pears, Etc.
Our record of over 30 years' standing in the handling of Australian fruit, with satisfactory results, is a recommendation for growers to ship their fruit to our house.
Representatives—
International Fruit & Mercantile Company Ltd., Melb., Vic., Australia; and A. J. Walshe & Co., Hobart, Tasmania.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FRUIT MARKETING ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Executive of the S. Aust. Fruit Marketing Association Inc. was held at Adelaide on November 25, 1932. There were present:—Messrs. H. J. Bishop (Chairman), J. S. Hammat, M. G. Basey, R. O. Knappstein, H. N. Wicks, R. B. Pritchard, D. W. Hannaford, F. B. James, A. O. Peterson, J. B. Randell, G. Quinn, R. Willsmore, R. H. Charlick, T. Playford, R. A. Cramond, G. W. Selth, P. R. B. Searcy, G. Mack, E. S. Mason, and the Secretary. Apology from Mr. M. Vickers.

Finance.—Financial statement showing balance in bank and in hand £317/11/8 was read and received.

Corrugated Pads.—The Shipping Sub-committee recommended that corrugated pads with a small corrugation and craft back, size 17 by 10½ inches, should be recommended for general use. Report adopted.

American Apples.—The President stated he had recently had an opportunity of seeing a film illustrating methods adopted in America of packing Apples, and arrangements could be made to have this film exhibited to members on December 16.

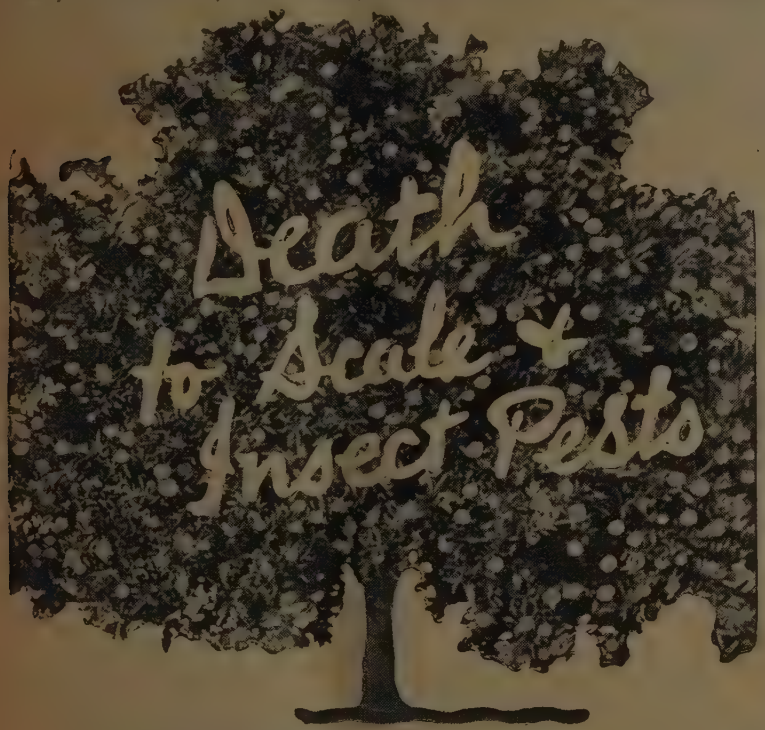
Correspondence.—Letter from V.F.M.A. advising that a resolution had been carried recommending to the Apple and Pear Export Council that the "Canadian" type case to be adopted as the uniform case for the export of Apples. Resolution carried in support.

Letter from V.F.M.A. enclosing copies of replies from the O.S.R.A., Sydney, and A.O.T.A., Sydney, in regard to request for reduction in freight on Apples and Pears.

Letter from W. Beauchamp & Co. Pty. Ltd., Hobart, Tasmania, asking for copy of rules of this Association with a view to the formation of a similar organisation in Tasmania. Secretary advised he had forwarded the rules and information in regard to the working of the Association.

Letter from A.O.T.A. forwarding reprint of article from "Country Life" on overseas transport problems. This article was read by the Secretary for the information of members.

Australian Apple and Pear Export Council.—Secretary advised advice had been received stating that Mr. Pearsall, Vice-President, had decided not to call a meeting until January 3 and 4. A strong protest had been made by this Association against deferring the meeting until January.



Extract from Actual Report:—

"Ten acres of Seville and Valencia oranges and lemons were seriously affected by white louse. Atlantic was applied on November 30th, and when inspected on January 7th the kill was estimated at 98%."

Atlantic White Spraying Oil is 100% effective. It is entirely free from water or moisture, and does not contain any ammonia or sulphur.

ATLANTIC WHITE SPRAYING OIL

Write or Call for Complete Details

ATLANTIC UNION OIL CO. LTD.

66 Pitt St., Sydney 396 Collins St., Melbourne A.S.O.1

FORDSON TRACTORS and OLIVER PLOWS

SPARE PARTS FOR ALL MODELS

Phone B7336 **MOTOR TRACTORS LTD., Young St., Sydney** Telegrams "Sellmotors"

Forecast of Crop.—Shipping Sub-committee advised that at a meeting held on November 17, the forecast for the season had been revised and the present forecast was 250,000 cases of Apples, and the Committee had supplied the O.S.R.A. with a list of the quantities for the different ports, and the number of ships considered necessary to lift the fruit.

Pear forecast had been revised, and the present forecasts were 12,000 cases March, and 6,000 cases by April 13, all for London.

Research Sub-committee.—Mr. H. N. Wicks advised that the Research Sub-committee recommended that 1,000 feet of Vallo patent codlin moth tree bands be obtained by the Association for distribution to the members who were carrying out experimental work, namely—Messrs. Basey, Hammat, Knappstein, Pritchard and Wicks. It was understood the manufacturers were prepared to supply these bands for experimental work at half price, and it was unanimously decided to adopt the recommendation of the Research Sub-committee and purchase these bands for distribution.

Bitter Pit.—Mr. G. W. Selth stated that he had been advised by a grower that he had placed seaweed around his trees, and had not had "bitter pit" since. He brought the matter under the notice of the Research Sub-committee as a matter of general interest.

AT the meeting of the Executive of the S.A.F.M.A., on December 16, there were present: Messrs. H. J. Bishop (chairman), J. S. Hammat, H. N. Wicks, J. B. Randell, D. W. Hannaford, M. G. Basey, R. O. Knappstein, A. O. Peterson, G. Quinn, R. A. Cramond, G. W. Selth, G. Mack, R. Willsmore, F. B. James, P. R. B. Searcy, E. S. Mason, M. Vickers and the Secretary. Apology from Mr. R. B. Pritchard.

Finance. — Financial statement showing balance £279/14/10 was read and received.

American Apples.—It was decided to inspect the recently arrived American Apples on December 21. It was also decided to arrange to have these Apples exhibited on Friday, January 13, 1933, at 10.30 a.m., and the film display illustrating American method of packing Apples at 11 a.m.

Letter from Gerrard Wire-Tying Machine Co. Ltd., advising the issue of a revised Apple and Pear-packing chart. Resolved to ask for 100 copies.

Shipping Sub-Committee.—On the recommendation of the Shipping Sub-Committee it was unanimously decided to rescind the resolution passed on September 30, 1932, in regard to the formation of a Freight Committee, and it was unanimously resolved "To form a sub-committee of shippers for the following purposes:—(a) To appoint a representative to attend the meetings of the forecasting committee of the Overseas Shipping Representatives' Association. (b) To provide this representative with advice of the necessary requirements for the season's shipment of Pears and Apples. (c) To request the shipping companies to fix a date each season on which the first allotment of space shall be made. (d) To advise all shipper-members of the sub-committee of this date. (e) To meet as necessary to fight for any better terms in the common interests. (f) To invite the co-operation of shippers (not being members) in carrying out these objects."

The Shipping Sub-Committee reported that they had increased the forecast for the coming season to 275,000 cases, an additional 25,000 for May shipment had been asked for.

(Continued on page 35.)

Fruit Growers and Exporters of

Apples, Pears, Grapes, Oranges

DISTRIBUTION the Key to — Success In Fruit Sales —

ROBERTS, BRINING & CO. LTD.

London and Liverpool

DIRECT DISTRIBUTION SERVICE

is based primarily on service to the grower and shipper whose interests are looked after personally right up to the completion of the sales, they see that each package is sold at the right time in the right market to insure the utmost possible returns.

The old methods of fruit sales were good enough in their day, but that is now passed. The evolution of this **distribution service** has been the direct and inevitable outcome of the need for more modern and enterprising methods to be applied to fruit marketing overseas.

R. M. GIBSON, 200 Queen St., Victorian Agent, will receive consignments for shipment to the United Kingdom and will pay substantial advances against shipping documents and give fullest information regarding R.B. & Co.'s successful fruit distributing service, which is entirely **new to Australia.**

Goodman's for Fruit Trees and FRUIT TREE STOCKS

Finest stock—strong healthy, well-grown Trees available.

Apples, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Apricots, Cherries, etc., packed and despatched by experts to any address.

All orders promptly and carefully filled.
Full particulars gladly supplied. WRITE TO-DAY.

C. J. GOODMAN, Picnic Point Nurseries

P.O. BOX 47. BAIRNSDALE, Vic.

Poultry Keeping a Profitable Sideline for Orchardists !

Read the

Australasian Poultry World

Published Monthly

6d. per Copy or 6/- per annum

Box 1944, G.P.O., Melbourne

AUSTRALIAN DRIED FRUITS.

Sales in Great Britain.

The Chairman of the Commonwealth Dried Fruits Export Control Board (Mr. W. C. F. Thomas) advises receipt of advice from the London agency of the Board intimating that a further 884 tons of Australian dried fruits has been placed in Great Britain.

This includes 105 tons Sultanas at an average of £41/0/6, 747 tons Currants at £29/12/3, and 32 tons Lexias at £33/0/6 per ton.

The total quantity of fruit—season 1932—unsold as at December 22 was 4,479 tons, comprising 3,908 tons Sultanas, 286 tons Currants and 285 tons Lexias. Included in the unsold balance are any shipments in transit to Great Britain.

Sales to December 22 make up 19,532 tons, valued at £944,210.

DRIED FRUITS.

Victorian Statistics for 1931-32.

Viticultural statistics for the State, which have been prepared by the Government Statist, show that the total production of Grapes for 1931-32 of 3,215,831 cwt. was higher than that of 2,639,902 cwt. for the previous season, but lower than the high production for the two preceding seasons. Of last season's total 218,977 cwt. was used for winemaking, 2,920,714 cwt. for making Raisins, Sultanas and Currants, and 76,140 cwt. for table consumption. Last season there were 2,500 growers, a decrease of 50. The area under bearing vines was 36,861 acres, and under vines not bearing 1,354 acres. The wine made amounted to 1,530,061 gallons, the largest total since 1928-29, Rutherglen contributing 844,502 gallons and Mildura 392,600 gallons. The production of Lexias was 65,151 cwt. (Mildura 61,437 cwt.), compared with 84,210 cwt. the previous year, of Sultanas 528,893 cwt. (Mildura 456,870 cwt.), compared with 363,336 cwt. the previous year, and of Currants 156,651 cwt. (Mildura 146,347 cwt.), compared with 156,689 the previous season.

DRIED FRUITS LEVY.

At a recent meeting of the N.S.W. Dried Fruits Board held in Sydney, consideration was given to a proposal to increase the levy imposed on growers from 5/10 per ton as at present to 7/6 per ton to enable the Board to make a contribution of £150 per annum for the next two years to the Dried Fruits Joint Publicity Committee of Australia, in addition to the contribution of £25 per annum now made to that Committee.

Meetings of growers had discussed the proposal, and it was clear to the Board that the majority of growers favored the proposal, but the Board formed the opinion that the voting at the meetings referred to hardly gave the Board a mandate. The Board, therefore, decided to make the contribution from its reserves of funds and not to increase the levy on growers during next season. The contribution is to be made for the year 1933 only, as the Board is unable to bind itself in relation to future years, seeing that for 1934 and in subsequent years the position of the Board's funds must be considered before a contribution can be decided upon.

The levy on growers of dried vine fruits, therefore, for the year 1933 will be 1/32d. per lb., that is, the same as for the current season.

The Dried Fruits Board has prepared a list of dried tree fruit growers in New South Wales and a list of dried tree fruit packers. When the regulations are gazetted, the packers and growers will be called upon to register, and from the growers registered a roll will be compiled in readiness for the election of the dried tree fruit representatives on the Board when the Act to gve this representation passes Parliament. This Act is in draft form.

Mr. Thomas Steele has been nominated as the representative of dried tree fruitgrowers in the Young and Koorawatha districts on the Advisory Committee to advise members of the New South Wales Dried Fruits Board the requirements of dried tree fruitgrowers pending those growers obtaining representation on the Board. A nomination for a similar representative of growers of dried tree fruits on the Murrumbidgee irrigation areas will also be made.

FOR INSULATING COOL STORES.

THE Australian-made product known as "Sisalkraft" is a six-ply fibre-reinforced fabric, which, in addition to being waterproof and airproof, has remarkable strength. It comprises two layers of strong kraft, two of plastic bitumen, and two of crossed sisal fibres.

All these qualities make "Sisalkraft" an ideal insulation sheathing in cool stores, refrigeration chambers, and icechests. It is light, easily erected and will not tear readily. An airtight and damp-proof building can be ensured by using "Sisalkraft" and sealing the joins with a bituminous paint. Another feature is that radiation from "Sisalkraft" is very limited.

Remarkable success has followed the use of "Sisalkraft" in this sphere. Of particular interest has been its use in connection with the transport of berry fruit, where a surprising saving and preservation of fruit has resulted.

Large quantities of "Sisalkraft" have been used in Victoria. This material has been used extensively in one of the most recently erected and up-to-date cool stores in the State, built at South Yarra for the Australasian Jam Co. Pty. Ltd. This work was supervised by Mr. P. C. Marsh, consulting and refrigeration engineer of Tasmania, who has carried on exhaustive tests with this material in brine and battery rooms and found it to stand the tests perfectly.

Kiln-dried and planed fruit cases may be obtained from Messrs. M. Feiglin & Sons, Shepparton. Orders are taken for any class of box, either kiln-dried or green cut direct from their mills at Powelltown and Millgrove.

The Vacuum Oil Co. Pty. Ltd., in their advertisement in this issue, advise orchardists to spray with Gargoyle White Spraying Oil in conjunction with Lead Arsenate for destruction of the codlin moth egg. This combination is stated to give ideal suspension, complete cover and penetration. Attention is directed to the Vacuum Oil Co.'s advertisement in this issue.

Pre-cooling Pears and Cantaloupes.—American experience goes to prove the benefit of pre-cooling Pears as soon as possible after picking and holding in cold store before railing to distant markets. Fruit not pre-cooled ripens unevenly, whereas the pre-cooled fruit ripens with remarkable evenness. The same experience has now been noted with Cantaloupes. Those which are ripened on the vines and pre-cooled average higher prices than the fruit not pre-cooled.

Europe's Premier Fruit Brokers

WHITE & SON LTD. FRUIT DISTRIBUTORS & MARKETING SPECIALISTS

London Fruit Exchange, Spitalfields, E.1., England

KEELING & WHITE LTD.
London Fruit Exchange,
Spitalfields, London, E.1.

MORGAN, WHITE & CO.,
Cardiff,
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NORTHERN FRUIT BROKERS LTD.
NORTH OF ENGLAND Branch,
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NORTHERN FRUIT BROKERS LTD.,
WHITE & SON, HULL Branch,
Humber Street,
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WHITE & SON LTD.,
(Covent Garden Branch),
36 Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

ROGERS, WHITE & CO. LTD.,
16-18 Victoria Street,
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WHITE & SON LTD.,
6 Oxford Street,
Southampton.

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Newcastle.

For Full Particulars Apply to

TASMANIA:	SOUTH AUSTRALIA:	VICTORIA:
H. JONES & CO. LTD., Old Wharf, HOBART.	GEORGE WILLS & CO. LTD., Gilbert House, Gilbert Place, ADELAIDE.	PARNHAM PTY. LTD., Broken Hill Chambers, 31 Queen St., MELBOURNE.
NEW SOUTH WALES:	**WEST AUSTRALIA:**	**NEW ZEALAND:**
BATLOW PACKING HOUSE & COOL STORES, RURAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD., Box 40, BATLOW.	GEORGE WILLS & CO. LTD., 156 St. Georges Terrace, PERTH.	J. A. REDPATH & SONS LTD., 37 Johnston Street, WELLINGTON.

S. Aust. Fruit Marketing Association.

(Continued from Page 32)

Apple and Pear Space.—A draft of a letter prepared by Mr. H. J. Bishop to the chairman of the Australian Overseas' Transport Association in regard to space for Pears and Apples was approved, and it was resolved the Secretary send on the letter.

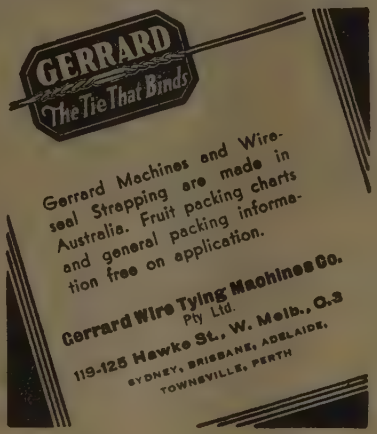
Letters were read by the Secretary from the O.S.R.A. and A.O.T.A., advising that in view of the probable record export of five to six million cases, it would be absolutely necessary to spread shipments for the coming season over a longer period than usual.

Pear Cases.—Resolved that delegates to the Apple and Pear Export Council advise that the majority of members of this Association favor the adoption of ¾ "Canadian" case, as the uniform case, but point out that this is not a unanimous decision, as some of our members prefer other types of package.

Apple Packing Classes.—Letter from Gerrard Wire Tying Co. Ltd., advising that Mr. W. L. Gregory would be in South Australia for three weeks in January, and offering his services to assist with Apple-packing classes. It was unanimously resolved to accept this offer, and thank the Gerrard Company, and the Shipping Sub-Committee was empowered to arrange the itinerary.

Research Sub-Committee's Report.—Mr. H. N. Wicks stated that interesting reports had been submitted by members, and by Mr. G. Quinn in regard to manurial tests, and traping codlin moths, and some interesting information was being obtained as a result of the tests that were being carried out.

In the advertisement in this issue of Karswood Poultry Spice, two appreciative letters from users are published which indicate the increase in egg production obtained by using Karswood Poultry Spice in the mash every evening.


GERRARD
The Tie That Binds
Gerrard Machines and Wire-seal Strapping are made in Australia. Fruit packing charts and general packing information free on application.
Gerrard Wire Tying Machines Co. Pty Ltd.
119-125 Hawke St., W. Melb., C.3
SYDNEY, BRISBANE, ADELAIDE, TOWNSVILLE, PERTH

Kiln-Dried and Planed

FRUIT CASES

Scientifically Tested. Contain the Correct Amount of Moisture.

Orders taken for any class of Box, either kiln-dried or green, cut direct from our mills at Powelltown and Millgrove. Made-up or in Shooks, wire bound. Ask for price quote.

M. FEIGLIN & SONS - - SHEPPARTON

Branch Factories at Orrvale, Mooroopna, Tatura and Koondrook.

Correspondence: Box 28 P.O., Shepparton.
Phone: Shepparton 219.

The "GUIDER" Fruit Grader

RELIABLE—FAST—EFFICIENT.

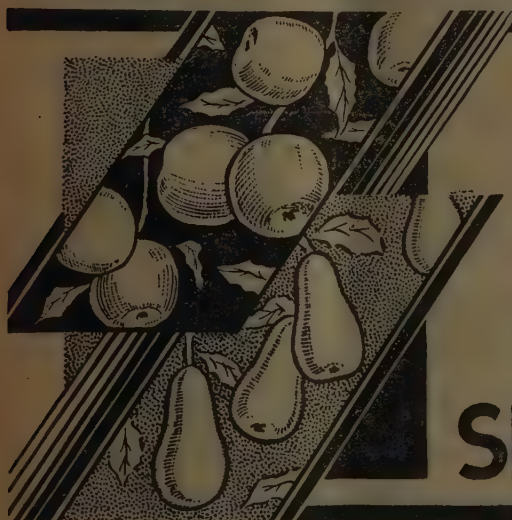
An eight-bin, adjustable grader built - to give long trouble-free service. -

£30 net at factory, Shepparton. £30

Sole distributors for Australia (except Tasmania)

E. J. VIBERT PTY. LTD.

Shepparton, Victoria.



SUCCESSFUL GROWERS are using SHELL.

Guided by past experience, successful fruit-growers in every Australian State are now engaged on their spraying operations, secure in the knowledge that the use of SHELL Spraying Oils effects the highest percentage of fruit-pest and disease control.

Order YOUR supplies of Spraying Oils NOW.

THE SHELL COMPANY LIMITED

SHELL SPRAYING OILS

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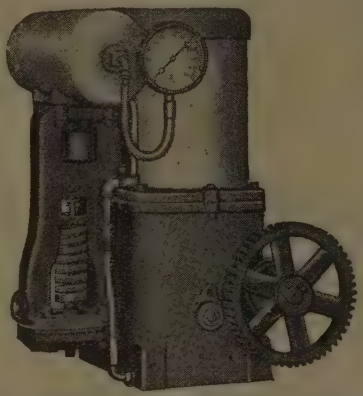

The Fig. 450 Totally Enclosed Twin-Cylinder Pump. All working parts totally enclosed and automatically lubricated. Any pressure up to 350 lbs. per square inch. Cylinders Porcelain Lined.

When You Think Orchard Equipment—*Think*

"BUZACOTT"

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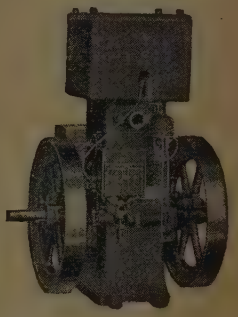
"BUZACOTT"

No matter what your Requirements may be, BUZACOTT'S or their Inter-state Agents will give you VALUE and SERVICE, and the PRICE IS ALWAYS RIGHT.

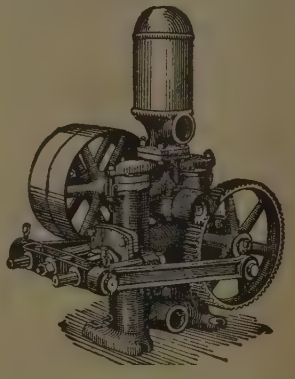
HERE ARE TWO MAIN UNITS OF

The 'Buzacott' Big 4 Portable Orchard Sprayers

Now Listed at Greatly Reduced Prices.



The Buzacott 1½-2¾ h.p. Vertical Hopper Cooled Engine. Totally Enclosed, Silent Running, Throttle Governing, Automatically Lubricated.



"Buzacott" Double Acting Piston Force Pump. (For Heads up to 250 ft.)

Water for the Orchard

Safeguard against a Shortage, which may mean Loss of Profits and a Ruined Crop.

Irrigate by

The "Buzacott" Irrigation System

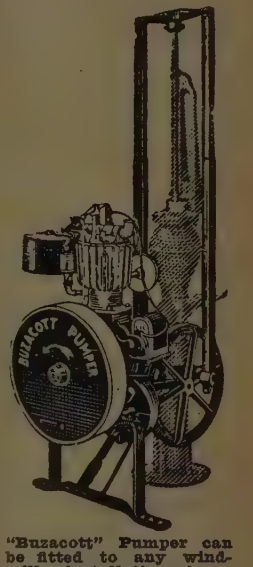
DO YOU KNOW THIS ?

It is a well-known fact that it requires the natural rain to obtain from the Plant life the very best results of growths. The Inventors of the "BUZACOTT" SPRAY IRRIGATION SYSTEM, after years of experience, have produced an Irrigation Plant that gives the nearest possible result to natural rain by the equal distribution of thoroughly ærated water.

The "BUZACOTT" requires less pressure than any other spray, and this, in turn, means less power and, consequently, less cost of running.

There are no wearing parts as with the revolving spray, and no spray is quicker cleaned than the "BUZACOTT."

Distribution. — The equivalent of one inch, 1½ inches, two inches per acre per hour, and even less or greater capacities, are possible with the "BUZACOTT."



"Buzacott" Pumper can be fitted to any windmill installation in a few minutes. No Belts. Standardised. Runs up to 12 hours on 1 Gallon Petrol.

FACTS !

THE "BUZACOTT" WAS THE FIRST COMMERCIAL SPRAY SYSTEM OF IRRIGATION—IT REMAINS TO-DAY THE MOST EFFICIENT.

INSTALL THE "BUZACOTT" AND BE INDEPENDENT OF THE RAINFALL!

The "Buzacott" Patent Bayonet Socket Spray permits of each Spray being kept in solid form for the maximum distance before breaking up.

BUZACOTT & Co. Ltd.

Sydney — Lismore — Brisbane

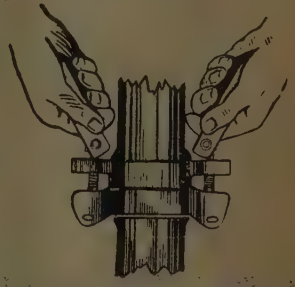
VICTORIAN AGENTS:

CAMERON, SUTHERLAND & SEWARD Pty. Ltd.,

Riverside Avenue, South Melbourne.

OTHER STATES—

Tasmania: Car Service Pty. Ltd., Hobart.
South Australia: Gardeners' Supply Stores, Adelaide.
West Australia: Skipper Bailey, Pastoral Dept., Perth.



The New Patented "Buzacott" Quick-acting Coupling.

MID-MURRAY NOTES.

Renmark (20/12/32).—The field day at the Berri Experimental Orchard took place on December 7, which attracted an attendance of 130 growers interested in the production of dried fruits and citrus fruits. This one day in the year specially set apart for inspection has become increasingly popular from year to year. Although experimental work has been in progress for more than 15 years, it has taken a good deal of publicity to attract such a large body of men. For many years the attendance numbered about 30, but as the range of experimental work became known, a steady increase set in, and for the past three years the number has been over the century mark.

Mr. A. Fotheringham, the genial and popular manager, took the assembly first of all to the manurial trials on vines. In all there are 26 separate trials, ranging in fertiliser applications from 2 to 8 cwt. superphosphate 36 W.S.P. per acre; combinations of super, sulphate of ammonia and potash; no manure check rows; bonedust up to 600 lb. per acre; sulphate of ammonia alone up to 4 cwt. per acre; sulphate of potash up to 2 cwt.; muriate of potash up to 2 cwt. per acre; nitrate of soda up to 578 lb. per acre; combinations of 6 cwt. super, 2 cwt. sulph. ammonia, and gypsum, bonedust, sulph. ammonia, and sulph. potash; four cwt. super with annual cover crop of legumes; rock phosphate and green manure crop on alternate years; super with green manure crops.

These particular manurial trials have been in progress for only 5 years, and the results up to date have been quite indeterminable, and cannot be taken as a guide for practical growers to follow; but there is at present evidence that certain combinations may eventually show up to better advantage than others.

It may be as well to explain that these plots were planted on an area once occupied by Lucerne, and the beneficial effect of the organic matter left by the Lucerne will naturally neutralise improvements generally expected by the application of organic matter. This was pointed out by a grower during the evening session, who suggested that as our soils had now been classified into separate types, experiments might be carried out by growers under supervision of departmental officers.

In answer, Mr. Fotheringham thought it would be a good plan provided the grower would give strict attention to necessary details which mean so much in all experimental work. Duplication of any trials is desirable, and the more the better, thus eliminating a certain amount of error.

Having digressed somewhat, we may again join the 130 interested listeners with Mr. Fotheringham in the lead, armed with facts and figures.

Cincturing tests on Currants at various stages of development were next visited. Seven separate tests are made in this department, commencing when the flowers are first opening, and continuing at various stages, up to the time when the berries are ⅛ in. in diameter. The best results in crop returns shown over a period of 6 years was that of removing a strip of bark when blossoms are just opening, and the lowest yield followed a single incision when berries are ⅛ in. in diameter. Many varieties of heavy bearing vines were seen on the manurial trial plot, the heaviest of which proved to be Alicante Black, with a yield of nearly 9 tons fresh fruit per acre in 1932, showing an average of over 7 tons per acre for the past 12 years.

Pruning trials of various kinds were next visited, and every known method of training being adopted. The heaviest bearing Currant trial proved to be that on a trellis and trained as a cordon on central wire, rod and spur pruned, but in this instance the quality of the dried article suffered, while the 3 pairs of arms spur pruned produced nearly as much fruit, this being of high quality. The average in this instance being an average of nearly 2½ tons, dried over a period of 15 years. The soil on this plot is of a deep sandy loam on a gradual slope.

Sultana yields were very close in the pruning trials, with a slight preference on a T trellis, where vines have been reformed to cordons, rod and spur pruned.

Citrus Experiments. — On the rising sandy soil is the citrus orchard, where the most extensive experiments are being made in manurial trials and cincturing trials, together with various stocks trials, utilising as a base many kinds of stocks upon which to propagate workable varieties. In the development of Orange growing on the River Murray it was noticed that many trees of vigorous growing and flowering habits failed to set a crop of fruit of which the tree looked capable, and following the line of argument which produced heavy crops on Zante Currants by cincturing, this method of checking the sap flow on citrus trees soon after flowering proved effective. For experimental purposes, cincturing of vigorous Orange trees became incorporated in field trials at the Berri orchard from which much useful information was gleaned. Experiments carried out for the past 8 years have revealed the fact that cinctured trees have given an increased yield of over 100 cases per acre over uncinctured trees. But it has also shown that indiscriminate cincturing, irrespective of the vitality of the tree, has a decided weakening effect, so much so that this practice on certain rows has had to be temporarily abandoned to allow trees to regain their strength. **Therefore the cincturing of citrus trees should only be confined to trees of vigorous habits which fail to set normal crops.**

The bearing habits of citrus appear to be confined to individual trees and in the Berri orchard are many trees of the Valencia variety, but of decidedly better quality and flavor. From these trees a pedigreed nursery is being built up, the trees of which will be distributed through the Citrus Association to its members, with a guarantee of being true to type.

Bud selection in propagating citrus trees is of the greatest importance, and had this been carefully followed by nurserymen in the past, we would hear less about "off type" trees than at present.

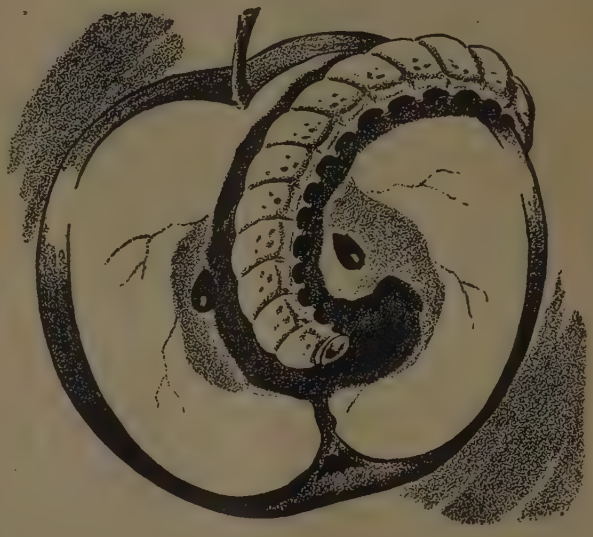
The outstanding feature of

manurial trials with citrus

trees at the orchard is the benefit derived from the application of sulphate of ammonia. Wherever this manure was used a definite increase in yield followed, whether in combination with superphosphate or bonedust or potash. The "no manure" test shows an appallingly low crop return throughout the period of tests. The highest yields being with an application of 5 cwt. superphosphate and 12 tons stable manure per acre, and the next highest being 1,008 lb. super, 3½ cwt. sulphate of ammonia, 6 tons stable manure, 1 cwt. sulphate potash. These tests have been in progress for only 3 years, and may have a different aspect in the course of time; therefore, the test is being watched carefully by citrus growers.

After having inspected the whole range of experiments about 85 growers remained to partake of tea at 6 o'clock, kindly supplied by the Department of Agriculture, after which Mr. G. Quinn (Chief Horticultural Instructor) gave an address on sulphur as a soil corrective and fungicide, and a comprehensive talk on various citrus pests, with special reference to red scale, which has shown itself in the district, and about which River growers are not very well informed. The meeting broke up at a late hour, everyone having spent a profitable afternoon and evening.—"Nemo."

Oust this Robber which eats your Profits!



THE Orchardist's aim is to proof his fruit against attack by Codlin Moth, by covering it with an unbroken poison film.

This is only possible by very careful and timely spraying, and by using an Arsenate of Lead that fulfils every requirement of the Orchardist.

Practical results, after all, are what the Orchardist wants, and Bickford's "Aero" brand Arsenate of Lead certainly gives him the best possible means of combating his worst enemy, the Codlin Moth.

To quote from a letter received from a leading orchardist who writes as follows:—

"We have used your "Aero" brand Arsenate of Lead for over seven years with the greatest success. We find that three thorough sprayings with 1 lb. of powder to 30 gallons of water on early varieties, and four on the later sorts, keep them quite free from Codlin Moth. We are thoroughly satisfied with "Aero" brand Arsenate of Lead, as we have compared it with other brands and have found it far superior in every way, and we intend to use it exclusively in future . . ."

Keep down your losses through Codlin by spraying your apples and pears with this superlative quality Arsenate of Lead (Powder or Paste)

BICKFORD'S "Aero" BRAND ARSENATE OF LEAD

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Spacious Showrooms,
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Made Against Bills of Lading.

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Otago, N.Z.

PORT of LONDON

The World's Best Fruit Market

Sales can always be depended on for best quality fruit at highest prices.

Besides its own vast population, London supplies the seaside resorts. Tourists make their headquarters in London and want the best fruit.

London has always been the centre of the Australian and New Zealand fruit trade, and although many efforts have been made to divert it to other ports, the presence of its huge local market with expert distribution agencies will ensure it remaining so.

London an International market where the World's Buyers congregate, and where the highest prices for best produce are always obtained.

All particulars as regards charges, etc., can be obtained from:

Capt. A. W. Pearse, Port of London Authority, **10 Bligh Street, Sydney**

CITRUS FUMIGATION *with* CALCID BRIQUETTES

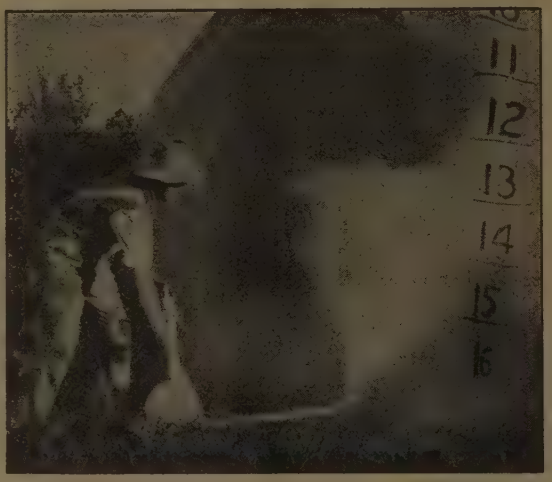

Illustration showing operator with machine at tented tree.

ensures a QUICK and UNIFORM distribution of Hydrocyanic Acid Gas throughout the whole of the tented enclosure, contacting with every insect on the tree.

You cannot afford to raise fruit and scale on the same tree —it just can't be done on any basis profitable to the grower.

The Largest Growers and the Largest Packing Sheds in Australia now fumigate exclusively with CALCID BRIQUETTES.

Ask us for Details of this Superior Fumigant.

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2 Bridge Street.	9 Empire Arcade, 268 Flinders St.	12 Page Street.	12 T. & G. Building	W. G. Waldie, 489 Murray Street.

"RED ROSE" NICOTINE SULPHATE

40 Per Cent.

GUARANTEED 40 per cent. PURE NICOTINE.

Indispensable to the Orchardist Invaluable to the Poultryman.

Full directions given on each tin.

BUY BRITISH! — and INSIST upon

"RED ROSE"

GET THAT 100 PER CENT. KILL.

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Agents for Victoria: D. & W. CHANDLER LTD., 120 Johnston Street, Fitzroy, N.6, Victoria.

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INCREASED PRODUCTION AT REDUCED COST ....

Nitrogen—one of the most important factors in fruit tree growth and production—is now cheaper than it has ever been in Australia.

SULPHATE of AMMONIA

the principal source of nitrogen supply is available at a price which brings it well within the reach of every fruit-grower. In fact, it is not too much to say that **no fruitgrower** who wishes to take advantage of the brighter outlook ahead, **can afford to do without SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.**

Ask your FERTILISER AGENT to quote you.

Write us for our Recommendations.

NITROGEN FERTILISERS PTY. LTD.
360 Collins Street, Melbourne, C.1.

THE IMPORTANCE OF NUT CULTURE.

The commercial importance of nut culture is now receiving more attention than ever before in Australia. Interesting illustrated articles on this subject will appear in the "Fruit World Annual" and the February issue of the "Fruit World." In particular, the prospects for Walnuts are particularly bright.

Some of the outstanding Walnut varieties include:—Wilson's Wonder, Freshford Gem, and Franquette.

Mr. L. J. Wicks, nurseryman, of Highbury, South Australia, has amassed much valuable information concerning nut culture and would be pleased to correspond with enquirers.

Cherries at Young (N.S.W.).—Cherry growers at Young, N.S.W., have picked the largest crop grown in the district. Over 100,000 cases have been dispatched from the local railway station, estimated to be worth £25,000. The previous best crop was 76,939 cases in 1929.

APPLE AND PEAR EXPORT COUNCIL.

Important Meeting at Melbourne.

The Australian Apple and Pear Export Council will hold its Annual Conference in Melbourne on January 4, 5, and 6, 1933. Mr. J. B. Mills will preside, and delegates will be in attendance as follows:—Tasmania: Mr. B. J. Pearsall, Hon. W. H. Calvert, M.L.C., Messrs. H. A. Court, E. Ross and J. P. Piggott; Victoria: Messrs. G. W. Brown, J. W. Bailey, J. B. Mills, and F. R. Mellor; South Australia: Messrs. H. J. Bishop, J. B. Randell and H. N. Wicks; Western Australia: Messrs. E. E. Hill, T. Skinner, H. Simper and R. M. Carter. N.S.W.: Messrs. H. V. Smith and E. Johns. Queensland: Mr. A. V. Wilson. Officials: Messrs. G. Quinn (S.A.), Grueber (Port Inspector, Hobart), J. M. Ward and E. Meeking (Victoria), G. W. Wickens (W.A.), C. G. Savage, H. Broadfoot and E. Butler (N.S.W.), J. Gregory (Queensland); in addition to officials of the Commerce Department and Science officers.

The Conference will be officially opened by Mr. E. J. Mulvany, Secretary, Commonwealth Commerce Department.

Citrus Growers!!

Spray NOW with a 50-50 Mixture of

Sincos and Gargoyle White Oils

and thus ensure a CLEAN Crop of Fruit without injuring the foliage.

SINCOS is also extremely efficient in eradicating Brown Rot.

Prices on application to—

Bordeaux Chemical Co.
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Phone, U 7235. East Malvern, S.E.5.

No. 9 Spraying Machine

The Most Extensive Manufacturers in the British Empire of

RUBBER STAMPS

Stencils, Marking Devices, Inks & Acme Stamp Pads

We make a Big Range of Special

Fruit Case Marking Sets

We also Manufacture and Supply

Spraying Machines

for All Purposes

Let us know your requirements, and we will quote you. Ask for Spraying Equipment Price List

Excelsior Supply Co. Ltd.

160 George St. West, SYDNEY, N.S.W.
278 Post Office Place, MELBOURNE, VIC.
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Corrugated Strawboard

for

Apple Case Linings

are a proven preventative of

BRUISED FRUIT

Years of study in the packing of Fruit and Fruit Products aided by modern and accurate mechanical equipment produces corrugations of uniform strength and resilience, ensuring a safe and clean pack at a low cost:

The first glance at your Product by a purchaser when so packed ensures a better price.

Full Particulars on application to:—

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Buckingham and Chalmers Streets,
SYDNEY . . N.S.W.

Fruit Growers *and* Shippers !

DO NOT BE PUT OFF or MISLED

Insist on direct freight for a fair share of your exports

What are you doing

about ensuring a better and wider distribution of your overseas exports next season ?—In 1932

MANCHESTER

One of the Best Markets and Biggest Centres of Population

Received only 33,296 Cases of Fruit by Direct Shipment from Australia (including Tasmania), yet during the greater part of the Season London Markets were glutted.

DO NOT BE PUT OFF OR MISLED,
insist on Direct Freight for a Fair Share of your Exports,

to ☛ **The Great Inland Port**

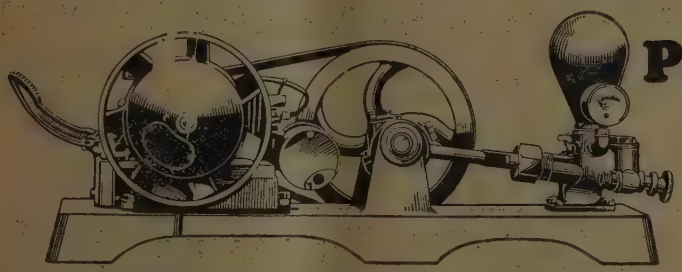
" In the Heart of Industrial England "

Cables and Telegrams: "Portoman," Sydney

Make early application for direct freight and if any difficulty is experienced, kindly communicate with—

Capt. W. J. Wade
8 Bridge Street, Sydney

Fruit Growers! Tobacco Growers! Tomato Growers!



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Power Spray Plant

Will discharge 80 Gals. per hour through 2 hoses, at pressure of 200 lb. per square inch.
Easily transported—on footboard of car or on sled.
One kick starts it.
Low initial cost.
Low running and upkeep.

Easily adapted for jetting, pumping, electric lighting, lime washing, etc. Prices for these extra fittings on application.

NOTE THE LOW PRICE — ONLY £58 (Including Fed. Sales Tax)

Freight Paid Victorian Railway Stations.

Complete with 30ft. of delivery hose, spray rod (7ft. 6in.) in 2 sections, suction stand agitating jet, spraying nozzle, with numerous discs, and shut off valve.

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Please forward me specifications and all particulars of the Marino Power Spray Plant.

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New Zealand.

Dunedin (23/12/32).—Messrs. Reilly's Central Produce Mart Ltd. report as follows:—Apples, Del., 8/- to 15/-; Sturmers, 8/- to 14/-; Pines, 16/- to 20/-; Grapefruit, Aust., 16/-; Lemons, N.Z., 20/- to 22/6; Bananas, choice ripe Niues, 23/6; Oranges, Val., 10/- to 15/-; commons, 9/- to 12/-; Navels, 45/-; Grapes, Cal., 30/-; Plums, Cherry Plums, choice 4/-, inferior 2/- half case.

The conditions that usually prevail during the festive season are very evident with us this year. One moment fearing a scarcity in any particular line ,the market jumps to extreme prices, then the next moment something being in over-supply, the market comes down with a flop. This applies to Cherries, soft fruits, Strawberries, Tomatoes, etc.

The shipment of Bananas ex the "Maui Pomare," both Niues and Samoans, arrived in perfect condition, and met a good market, Niues selling at 21/- per case in one hundred case lots, and Samoans at 23/- per case.

The embargo on citrus fruits has had a tendency to establish prices on a firmer basis.

Cherry Plums, Peaches, Apricots, have come into the market, and realised fair values.

Some very choice Grapes came forward from Mr. Gilmour Roxburgh, and realised 3/- per lb.

"Black Leaf 40"

Death to Aphis (Plant Lice) and Other Insects

Aphis and other insects are common enemies of the orchardist and gardener. Protect your trees, vines and plants with "Black Leaf 40."

In the Orchard and Garden

"Black Leaf 40" is recommended for killing wooly aphis, apple aphis, peach aphis, aphis on roses, other flowers and vegetables, mussel scale (young), Harlequin fruit bug, holy or cross bug, oleander scale (young), San Jose scale (young), red scale (young), red mites (Summer), rutherglen bug, pear and cherry slug, thrip, fine scale (young), pea mite.

In the Poultry Yard

Paint the roosts lightly with "Black Leaf 40" just before the birds go to roost. Body-lice will be destroyed while the flock roosts. To help prevent mites from attacking fowls, tie or tack a piece of heavy cloth around ends of roosts and roost supports and saturate with "Black Leaf 40;" spray inside of house with "Black Leaf 40," three tablespoonsful to a gallon of water to which soap has been added.

"Black Leaf 40" has the endorsement of Agricultural Colleges, Experiment stations and orchardists. It is the World's leading aphis specific. It also kills the young larvae of many chewing insects when sprayed upon them so as to wet their bodies.

Kills By Contact and By Fumes

"Black Leaf 40" has a dual action. It kills plant insects both by fumes and by contact. This double-killing action makes "Black Leaf 40" unusually effective in insect control.

Paint Roosts . . . Kill Poultry Lice

Poultrymen find that if they paint the roosts lightly with "Black Leaf 40" the lice on the birds are killed. The heat from the birds' bodies releases fumes which destroy lice, as the flock roosts on perches.

Genuine "Black Leaf 40"

"Black Leaf 40" is registered by us in Australia and New Zealand as a Trade-Mark and Brand. Users are familiar with the red labelled packages and the black leaf design prominently displayed thereon. Beware of imitations. Insist upon genuine "Black Leaf 40," made only by Tobacco By-Products & Chemical Corporation.

Distributed in Australia by Neptune Oil Company, Melbourne, and by Producers' Cooperative Distributing Society, Sidney

MANUFACTURED BY
Tobacco By-Products & Chemical Corp.
(Incorporated)
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, U.S.A.

Poultry Notes.

FEEDING RATIONS.

"J.N.G." (Emerald), writes:

Ques.—After having tried several different mashes, I have come to the conclusion that the best for egg production must contain buttermilk, therefore the most economical is in my opinion (dry mash); 60 lbs. pollard, 30 bran, 8 meat (S.M.P. in city abb.), 2 buttermilk, 3 charcoal. I have in other mashes fed wheat 2/3, maize 1/3 as the grain portions, but I invariably get an inferior sample of maize.

As I can always rely on first quality wheat I want to feed wheat all the year only. Will the above mash with wheat be balanced? If not, would you explain. Does feeding maize give any better results. With dry mash always available, what amount of wheat should be given per bird? Is 2 ozs. too much or would 2½ ozs. winter and 1¾ ozs. summer be correct, My birds are W.L. and R.I.R.

Answer.—As the bulk of your dry mash is probably composed of wheaten millings, it would be advisable to feed say, 10 per cent. of stout Algerian oats in the evening grain ration to provide variety, if a good sample of maize is not obtainable.

If you feed wheat alone in the evening it would be better to feed 30 lbs. of wheaten pollard and 30 lbs. of oaten pollard in the dry mash. The feeding of a proportion of oats or maize in some form helps to keep fowls in good condition, containing more fat than wheat.

The quantity of grain to be fed can be gauged by the condition of the birds, though 2 ozs. per bird per day may be regarded as a good standard to work upon. In the summer months, if your Reds are inclined to fatness, the ration could be slightly reduced. I do not think that with the dry mash always before the birds it would be necessary to feed 2½ ozs. per bird even in the winter.

It is difficult, however, to overfeed laying hens as they must be well and sufficiently fed to keep up heavy egg production. When they are moulting, the rations could be slightly reduced, but it is mainly a matter for your own observation and the quantities given in all cases are based on general standards.

CURING BROODINESS.

"Novice" (Shepparton), writes:

Ques.—Which is the best way to cure a broody hen and bring her back to production again?

Answer.—There are many ways of curing broodiness, but the most essential factor with all methods is to remove the hen from the nest as soon as she becomes broody, and not some days afterwards. Place the hen in a slatted crate and if possible suspend it from the branch of a tree, where it will sway in the breeze. This is one effective means of curing a hen of broodiness. Where numbers are concerned, small pens with slatted floors can be hung in the sheds where the birds are housed and the broodies immediately transferred from the nests to the "broody" pens. Feed very lightly.

Jones rushed up to his friend in the street: "Lend me ten shillings," he said, desperately. "I've come away and left my purse at home in my other trousers pocket."

"Here's ten bob," said the friend. "But, I say, old man, that was rather careless of you. Suppose your wife searches your pockets and finds the purse?"

As Jones pocketed the money he said, with a smile: "She'll be disappointed. There's only sixpence in it."

Roberts, Brining & Co. Ltd., of London and Liverpool, one of the largest firms connected with fruit distribution in the United Kingdom, is being represented in Australia by Messrs. Pitts and Lehman, of Sydney. Mr. R. M. Gibson, 200 Queen-street, Melbourne, is acting as Victorian representative.

The Kyabram Fruit Preserving Co. showed a profit of £8,170 for 1932. During the year just ended the company processed 3,500,000 tins of fruit, and 287 tons of pulp. The selling merger between the Kyabram and Ardmona companies has resulted in economies, and its effect will be more apparent during 1933.

EGGS! A GOOD RETURN

Karswood Poultry Spice, containing ground insects, is the most economical and reliable feed for fowls. It enriches the blood, brings the birds into better condition, acts as a natural tonic and increases the egg supply.

Read this letter from Mr. Klein, of Parkes:—

"I have great pleasure in telling you my record of eggs since I started with fowls on the 22nd July with Chinese Langshans. From the 22nd July till 1st October, they laid six dozen and ten eggs, besides going broody twice. This I think is a good average from 2 pullets. I also took first prize with one pullet in the Parkes Show."

Try Karswood Poultry Spice on your own birds. Feed it in the mash every evening. Do not expect to see immediate results because Karswood does not force birds. In a fortnight you will be delighted with the number of eggs you are getting.

KARSWOOD
POULTRY SPICE
Increases egg-production without forcing.

GERRARD
The Tie That Binds

Victorian Railways will not meet claims for damage and ullage of cases in transit unless double strapped for safe transport. A penny spent on Gerrard Strapping goes a long way in safe transport.

Gerrard Wire Tying Machines Co. Pty. Ltd.
119-125 Hawke St., W. Melb., C.3
SYDNEY, BRISBANE, ADELAIDE, TOWNSVILLE, PERTH

Australian and New Zealand Fruit Trade

Market Notes and News — Prices, etc.

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Jones, H., Co. Ltd., Fruit Exporters.
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White & Son Ltd., London Fruit Exchange, Spitalfields, E.1.

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GERMANY.

Bremen:

Fruchthandel, Gesellschaft.

Hamburg:

Astheimer, P. H., & Son, Fruchthof.
Gustav Bey, Hamburg.
Int. Fruit Import Gesellschaft.
Lutten, J. H., & Sohn, Hamburg
Stier, Aug., Fruchthof.
Timm & Gerstenkorn.
Wilhelm Kopke.

SYDNEY MARKET.

Report for Month of December.

Seriousness of the New Zealand Embargo.

ARRIVALS OF FRUIT on our market during the past month were very heavy and much above the quantity received during the same period in 1931.

Although values for most lines were far from high, a most satisfactory feature was that very little fruit remained unsold, and the bulk of this was of inferior quality, and in many cases should not have been sent to the market.

The whole trade has suffered a severe blow by the announcement on December 16, by the New Zealand Government of the total prohibition of all fresh fruits from Australia after that date.

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References :— Bank of N.S.W., Haymarket, Sydney and Growers throughout Australia

CITY FRUIT MARKETS, SYDNEY

The Dominion has in the past taken large quantities of many varieties, including Pineapples, Passionfruit, Cherries, Plums and Apricots, as well as vegetables, but the growers most severely hit are the citrus growers. New Zealand has been Australia's largest export market, and with this outlet closed, the outlook for citrus for next season would indeed be a gloomy one. It is unthinkable that a market capable of absorbing 250,000 cases of citrus fruit in a normal season, should be closed in such a summary fashion, and it behoves every citrus grower to spare no efforts to point out the seriousness of the position to the Federal Government, so that the differences between the two countries can be adjusted and normal trading resumed.

In view of the increasing production of citrus fruit, every organisation in the industry had been searching round for additional export markets, before the recent embargo by New Zealand was announced, and if we are to lose our largest existing export market it must be apparent to the veriest novice in marketing, how serious the position will become.

New Zealand is only four days from Australia, and it is possible to send citrus fruit of excellent quality, and in every way suited for the trade, but which will not carry to markets further afield, such as the U.K. and Canada.

Mandarins, Common Oranges and Lemons in particular fall into this category, and also Navels and Valencias marketed late.

To one who is conversant with the Sydney market it is no exaggeration to say that Mandarins in a normal season without the New Zealand market, will be unsaleable except at prices which must result in a loss to the grower.

Apples.—Supplies from Tasmania were greater than at the same period last year, and with early varieties from N.S.W. available in quantity and heavy arrivals of all stone fruits, the demand fell off and values came back.

All red varieties from Tasmania and Victoria sold from 8/- to 11/-, according to counts, with Crabs 6/- to 8/-, with a few to 9/-.

Early N.S.W. Apples were plentiful, with an oversupply of small fruit. Allsopps are seling 3/- to 5/-, Carringtons 4/- to 8/-, and cookers 5/- to 9/-.

Apricots.—Sold well throughout the period.

With a satisfactory price being offered by canners and good prospects for dried fruit, growers in the M.I.A. have restricted their consignments to the Sydney market, and this has kept prices steady, at 5/- to 7/-, according to size.

Bananas.—Were in moderate supply. Weather conditions early in the season checked the growth, but increased arrivals can be expected from now on. Values were steady throughout, nines and eights realising 18/- to 20/-, with some higher; sevens 14/- to 18/-, and sixes 10/- to 14/-.

Cherries.—Young district finished marketing a record crop about the middle of the month. While prices were not high, practically all the fruit was sold, and considering general conditions, this can be regarded as satisfactory.

Orange district has finished its early varieties, and is more than half way through the late varieties.

As in the case of Young, despite the very heavy consignments, all Cherries have so far been sold.

The quality this season, of Cherries, was outstanding, and, generally speaking, probably the finest ever produced in this State.

Grapefruit.—Shipments form America came on the market this month and were first offered at 55/- per export case. Sales were found to be slow at this figure, and the price was gradually reduced to 45/-.

The quality was little, if any, superior to good local or Victorian fruit, but unfortunately buyers showed a preference for the imported article, and this affected values of local fruit. Before the American fruit arrived locals were selling at 22/- per bushel for 68's to 96's. At the present time this fruit is realising 15/-.

Lemons.—Were in light supply throughout the period, with a good demand.

Choice cured Lemons of counts 180 to 216 sold to 25/-, with colored fresh Lemons to 16/-, and green Lemons to 12/- for the same counts.

A shipment of Italian Lemons arrived during the month, and is selling slowly at 32/- per bushel. The fruit is of good quality, but as only a small parcel came in, values of local fruit have not been affected.

Oranges.—Valencias showed little variation in values during the month, except for really special fruit of counts 113 to 138. This was scarce and sold to 8/-, with a few

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All Victorian Fruits and Nuts handled to best advantage on the Sydney Market.

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See Paragraph, Page 209.

Stencils, Advice Notes, etc., on Application.

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Shipping No. 83. Established 1900.

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brands higher. Small fruit was in oversupply and made low prices, while inferior fruit was almost unsaleable.

Shippers operating for the N.Z. market undoubtedly held up values, as the heavy quantities of stone fruits on the market meant a reduced demand for Oranges from retailers.

Nectarines.—Were in very light supply. The demand was slow and sales were made at 5/- to 7/- per box.

Plums.—Small fruit was in oversupply, and could only be moved at very low rates. Large Plums were wanted and sold from 4/- to 6/- with a few to 8/- right throughout the period.

Peaches.—Have fluctuated in values according to supplies. Early varieties were plentiful and sold at low values. There was an interval after the early varieties finished and before the later varieties arrived in quantity, when values moved up.

Arrivals are now again heavy, and values have again come back.

Small fruit is plentiful and slow of sale even at 2/- per box. Large Peaches sold this week to 6/-.

Pineapples.—Were in light supply throughout the month, and values remained firm at 12/- to 13/- for large fruit and 13/- to 15/- for 18's to 24's. Prices are expected to hold until arrivals become heavier.

Passion Fruit, which sold at high values in November, came on the market in quantity early in the month both from Queensland and the North Coast of N.S.W. In consequence, prices fell heavily and only really choice fruit brought 8/- per box, with the bulk of the fruit selling round 5/- per box and inferior fruit was hard to move at 3/-.—P. S. Macdermott.

Sydney, 23/12/32.

New South Wales.

Sydney (19/12/32).—The Market Representative of the Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W. reports as follows:—Apples (Tas.), Crofton, 8/6 to 12/-; Demo., 8/6 to 12/-; French Crab, 6/6 to 9/-; Sturmer, 7/- to 10/-; (N.S.W.), Allsop's, 2/- to 5/-; Carrington, 3/- to 9/-; G. Smith, 10/- to 15/-; Mobb's Royal, 5/- to 8/-; (Vic.), Yates, 8/- to 13/-. Apricots, small, 1/6 to 2/6 half case; others, 3/- to 5/-, few extra special to 7/-; Bananas, 10/- to 20/-, few higher; Cherries, Florence (Orange), 3/- to 4/- per quarter; Margaret, 3/- to 5/-, special higher; Napoleon B., 3/- to 3/6, special to 4/-; Citrus, Lemons, 8/- to 14/- bushel; cured (Vic.), 10/- to 18/-; cured (N.S.W.), 14/- to 18/-; Valencias, 3/- to 6/-, special to 7/-; smaller, 2/- to 3/-; Grapefruit (N.S.W. and Curlwaa), Marsh's Seedless (standard), 8/- to 12/-, special 13/- to 15/-; Cal., 45/- to 50/-; Mangoes, 10/- to 11/- bushel; larger supplies are arriving to-day which indicates a reduced figure. Nectarines, 5/- to 6/- half case; Plums, 1/- to 5/- half case, few 6/-; Shiro, Santa Rosa and Formosa are the principal varieties on the market, the demand being steady at prices quoted. Peaches, 2/6 to 8/- half case; Pineapples, 12/- to 14/- case, few 15/-; Passion Fruit, Queensland (special), 4/- to 6/- half case; (inferior), 2/- to 4/-; N.S.W. (North Coast), 5/- to 8/-; N.S.W. (inferior), 3/- to 5/-; Papaws, 7/- to 11/- tropical case; Tomatoes (N.S.W.), green, 2/- to 4/- half case; colored to 4/6, extra special to 6/-; colored to 4/6.

RAIL FREIGHTS REDUCED.

The Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W. report a reduction of 10 per cent. by the N.S.W. Government on fresh fruit freight charges. The reduction will take effect as from December 19, 1932. This will be applicable to the N.S.W. portion of the freight for fruit coming or going to other States. The Transport Commission estimates that this decision will mean a concession of about £24,000 per annum to fruitgrowers.

Mrs. Hen was in tears. One of her little ones had been sacrificed to make a repast for a visiting clergyman.

"Cheer up, madam," said the rooster, comfortingly. "You should rejoice that your son is entering the ministry. He was poorly qualified for a lay member, anyhow."

MONEY

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COMMERCIAL INQUIRIES.

The following commercial inquiries have been received by the Department of Commerce. No responsibility is accepted as to the standing of inquirers, with whom firms interested are requested to communicate direct. References accompany those inquiries marked (a), and interested firms will be supplied, in confidence, with information as to the general standing of inquirers on application to the Department of Commerce, A.M.P. Buildings, Collins-street, Melbourne.

(a) **Messrs. A. H. Fawcett & Co.,** 54 Stanley-street, Liverpool, desire to get in touch with Australian exporters of Apples.

(a) **Messrs. Hayes, McQueen & Co.,** York Buildings, York-street, Glasgow, C.2, Scotland, desire to get in touch with Australian exporters of milk powder, canned Apples and Sultanas.

Mr. F. E. S. Davies, 55 Cholmeley-crescent, London, N.6, agent, broker and merchant, is desirous of representing Australian producers and exporters.

Messrs. Wm. P. Storey & Co., P.O. Box 1493, C.1, Auckland, New Zealand, desire to get in touch with any Australian firm requiring representation in New Zealand for any competitive line of manufactured goods, Oranges, wines, etc.

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Agencies: LONDON and HULL. *Consignments Arranged.* References Bank of N.S.W., Castlereagh St., Sydney

PHONE: MA. 1363 Telegraphic Address—"Citrus" Sydney.

Messrs. Connell Bros. & Co. Ltd., 430 California-street, San Francisco, California, desire to get in touch with Australian leather exporters with a view to learning business details relative to samples, packing information and prices.

Mr. Oscar Azzopardi, 39 Windsor-terrace, Sliema, Malta, desires to represent Australian manufacturers of canned fruits, tinned milk, sauces, cheese, and butter.

Sagoon Jaydev Dhond, general merchant and commission agent, 517 Rua 34 de Janeira, Nova-Goa, Portuguese India, desires to get in touch with Australian exporters of wheat, potatoes, onions, beans and peas, butter, cheese, canned fruits and jams.

A Conference will shortly be held at Sydney to consider the possibility of extending the sale of Australian vegetables in the East. The meeting is being convened by Mr. Stewart, Federal Minister for Commerce.

Mr. Benton, Fruit Instructor to the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, advises that Emperor Mandarins can be satisfactorily worked to Navels and Valencias. When worked on Lemon stock the Emperor Mandarin goes dry in unfavorable seasons.

Officials of the Prime Minister's Department will confer with Banana growers of N.S.W. and Queensland on January 12, to discuss the distribution of a grant of £5,000 to growers which is expected from duties received from Fiji Bananas.

PLUM GRADE STANDARDS IN QUEENSLAND.

The Queensland Department of Agriculture advises that Plum grade standards have been proclaimed in that State and will be enforced as from December 6, 1932. The

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minimum diameters to which the various varieties must comply are as follows:—

Minimum Diameter of 1¼ Inches.—Little Gem, Evans' Early, Blue Rock, Tibbits, and Early Orleans.

Minimum Diameter of 1⅜ Inches.—Doris, Duffy's, Wright's Early, Santa Rosa, Wilson, and Angelina Burdett.

Minimum Diameter of 1½ Inches.—Burbank, Giant Prune, Pond's, President, Grand Duke, Black Diamond, Magnum Bonum, Coe's Golden Drop, Kelsey, Wickson, Ballena, Shiro, Beauty, Formosa, Sultan, and October Purple.

QUEENSLAND CASES.

Under the regulations gazetted at the request of the Citrus Sectional Group Committee, Queensland growers will not be able, after January 1, 1933, to market Grapefruit and Oranges in other than the "dump" bushel (18 x 8 2-3 x 14⅜ in.) or the Canadian standard bushel (18 x 11½ x 10½ in.). No alteration has been made with regard to Mandarin packing, the use of the flat, or long, bushel (26 x 6 x 14⅜) being optional.

The Western Australian Fruitgrowers' Association is opposed to the introduction of a Marketing Bill for dealing with fruit other than Grapes. A Vigilance Committee was formed to watch the proposed legislation.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Coonawarra.—Apples and Pears are light; Prunes, Apricots and Peaches, heavy; Grape prospects are promising.

Growers in this district have expressed opposition to the proposals for the control of dried tree fruits. So far growers have been able to satisfactorily dispose of their dried Prunes and Apricots.

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Pears

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18 x 20 ..	2 19 0	18 x 20 ..	4 2 6
18 x 24 ..	3 13 6	18 x 24 ..	4 19 6
18 x 27 ..	3 19 6	18 x 27 ..	5 10 0
18 x 30 ..	4 6 0	18 x 30 ..	6 1 0
18 x 33 ..	4 13 0	18 x 33 ..	6 14 6
21 x 30 ..	4 19 6	21 x 30 ..	6 19 6
21 x 33 ..	5 9 6	21 x 33 ..	7 12 0
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Wholesale Fruit Salesmen
12 Wholesale Fruit Market
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For Reference: ASK ANYONE

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ALTERED MARKETING HOURS DESIRED.

Fruitgrowers in Victoria— and notably soft fruitgrowers in the Goulburn Valley and Northern Victoria—are keeping very alert on the subject of altering the trading hours in the Victoria Market. Growers have been co-operating with the Market Reform Committee to do away with unnecessary trading in the "wee sma'" hours of the morning—a reform which is deemed to be long overdue and especially as under the present trading hours much country fruit misses the day's market. The proposed altered marketing hours are in keeping with the marketing systems in operation in the other State capitals. In fact, surprise has been expressed that the market trading hours in Melbourne have not kept pace with developments in transport.

It should be noted that this reform is being pushed on with, and amending bill being in course of preparation. It is at this season of the year that the up-country growers are feeling the pinch because of the wastage of fruit owing to its having missed the day's market. Goulburn Valley growers are urging that all interested should write to their local member of Parliament, urging the passing of the Fruit Marketing Hours Amendment Bill as early as possible.

Further particulars are obtainable from the Secretary of the Market Reform Committee, Mr. J. D. Fraser, Stand No. 21, Wholesale Fruit Market, Melbourne.

Victoria.

Melbourne (30/12/32).—The following prices, quoted by the Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association of Victoria, are those which ruled yesterday:—Apples, 4/- to 8/-, special higher, case; Apples (per case), eating, 7/- to 10/-; cooking, 6/- to 8/-, special higher; Bananas (Queensland), double case, green, 7's, 8's and 9's, 16/- to 19/-, few higher; 6's, 14/- to 15/-; Cherries, 8/- to 14/- half case, small and inferior lower; Grapefruit, 6/- to 12/- double case (special higher); Lemons, 8/- to 14/- (special higher); Val. Oranges, 4/- to 8/-; special, to 10/- case; Pineapples (double case), Queen's, 16/- to 20/-, few special higher; Ripley's, 8/- to 10/-; Passion Fruit (half case), 5/- to 8/-, few special higher; Papaws, 8/- to 12/- double case; Plums, 4/- to 5/-, special higher; Peaches, 5/- to 10/-, a few special to 12/-; Cucumbers, 7/- to 10/- case; Tomatoes, local up to 9/- case; green, unsaleable.

The Melbourne market manager of the Federal Citrus Council of Australia reports that the citrus market is dull. Sales yesterday were as follow:—Valencias, average standard grades, including N.S.W., 6/- and 7/-, best counts; a few 8/-; 225, 5/-; smaller, difficult of sale; a few selected standards, including special M.I.A. and N.S.W. coastal wrapped brands, 8/-; a few, 9/-; a few specially selected higher, to 10/- and 12/-, best counts. Lemons, average standards, 12/-, best counts (180-245); good standards, to 15/-; a few selected higher. Grapefruit, standards, large to 38 count, 8/-; best counts (60-75) to 11/-; selected wrapped, to 14/-; a few specially selected higher.

Fruiterer Fined for Selling Fruit.—For having fruit exposed for sale after 7 p.m. during winter, a Fitzroy fruiterer was recently fined 10/-, with 17/6 costs. Members of the Fruiterers' Association assisted in the prosecution.

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Fiji Bananas.—No difficulty will be encountered in disposing of the small consignment of Fiji Bananas (675 cases) which arrived in Melbourne on Monday, January 2. The fruit is being sold by Austral Grain and Ambler Pty. Ltd., Melbourne. Under the Ottawa agreement, Australia is pledged to admit 400 centals of Fiji Bananas a year at a duty reduced from 8/6 per cental to 2/6 per cental.

Much public interest has been aroused in the shipment, and a big demand is assured.

The Gooseberry crop at Wandin North was a good one, and satisfactory prices were received. The Raspberry and Loganberry crops are now being picked, as are late crops of Cherries. Extensive plantings of Tomatoes are being made, and the planting of Peas, Beans, and late Potatoes are also in progress.

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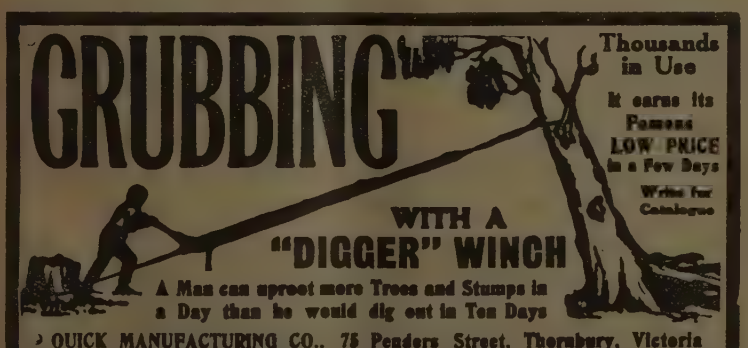

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UNRIPE GRAPES NOT WANTED.

Drastic action is to be taken against growers who persist in sending unripe Grapes to market. This announcement is made by Mr. Allan, Minister for Agriculture in the Victorian Legislative Assembly. Hundreds of cases of unripe Grapes were condemned last year, and a more vigorous inspection is to be made this season.

By general agreement, the wholesale fruit merchants of Melbourne closed their stores at the Wholesale Fruit Market on Monday, January 2. The growers' section and the retail trade section was open as usual.

The business of Tim Young & Co. Pty. Ltd. continues to expand, and in addition to their large stores at the Wholesale Fruit Market and Franklin-street, tney have opened up another distributing centre in the new buildings at the corner of Queen and Therry streets.

Among the Chinese fruit merchants are many keen intellects. They are closely in touch with the affairs of China, and other Eastern countries, and never miss an opportunity of extending their trade with the East. Some of them have established many good business connections in Fiji, Dutch East Indies, Manila, Singapore, and Chinese ports.

Cherries from N.S.W.—A very attractive 12 lb. box of Cherries is being packed at Orange, N.S.W. When they made their appearance at the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit Market, there was a good demand for them at 7/6 per box for the Christmas trade.

The majority of the boxes sent down contained St. Margaret variety, and were of fine size and color. Fancy white paper partially covering the top layer, added to the appearance of the fruit, which was extremely well packed.

Initial shipments of Canadian Apples to Britain this season sold quickly at prices in advance of those secured in 1931. This is a very encouraging commencement.

NEW REGISTRATIONS.

International Nailless Cases Pty. Ltd. is the title of a new company recently formed to manufacture nailless boxes and cases. The company was registered on December 1 with a capital of £24,000 in £1 shares. The names subscribed to the memorandum are:—Roy Ivey, Frank Groves, Walter Adams Coxon, Alfred E. Smith, John Christensen, one share each.

VICTORIAN FRUIT MARKETING ASSOCIATION.

At the December Executive meeting of the Victorian Fruit marketing Association, the President (Mr. G. W. Brown) cordially welcomed Mr. J. B. Mills on his return from Ottawa and London. There were also present at the meeting Messrs. A. S. Harrison (Vice-President), J. M. Ward (Superintendent of Horticulture), E. Meeking (Senior Inspector), F. R. Mellor, W. H. Carne, W. P. Hutchinson, W. A. Webb, C. J. Parnham, J. W. Bailey, C. H. Jost, J. Barker, E. Whitlam (Melbourne University), J. Gregory (Department of Agriculture, Queensland), E. Pritchard, J. H. Ely, and the Secretary. Apologies were received from Messrs. F. Cave and E. I. Lawford.

Mr. J. W. Bailey, on behalf of the Gippsland Fruit Marketing Association, proposed that two shipments of precooled Apples be sent overseas during the coming season. It was decided to request the Fruit Exporters' Handling Committee to arrange these shipments, one during the third week of March and the other the third week of April. Different varieties and sizes of Apples to be selected if possible, the fruit to be pre-cooled for not less than 72 hours.

On the subject of trade with Canada the subject of "fireblight" was discussed. While no resolution was adopted, there was a consensus of opinion that the embargo should be lifted provided the science officers gave an assurance that there was no danger of introducing fireblight on the fruit.

Messrs. Brown, Bailey, Mills and Mellor were appointed to confer with the Orchardists and Cool Stores Association on January 20 on the subject of the export levy.

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"FRUIT WORLD ANNUAL."

Comprehensive review of Australian and New Zealand fruit industry

"The Fruit World," Box 1944 G.P.O., Melbourne.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO FRUITGROWERS

All Members under Fidelity Bond

In response to numerous requests from growers for information as to who are members of the WHOLESALE FRUIT MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA, the following list is given. All are members of the above Association, and are registered firms carrying on business in the

Wholesale Fruit Market, Melbourne

Stand numbers are as indicated in parentheses.

H. M. WADE & CO. (21).
T. STOTT & SONS (26).
H. L. E. LOVETT & CO. (23).
A. E. PITT (14).
J. DAVIS PTY. LTD. (8).
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G. WOOLF & SONS (29-30).
F. CAVE & CO. PTY. LTD. (9).
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GROWERS PROTECT YOURSELVES by consigning to members of the WHOLESALE FRUIT MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA.

Correspondence is invited by the Association. J. D. FRASER, Secretary, 422-428 Collins St., Melbourne

HAIL DAMAGE AT ECHUCA.

What is described as the most devastating hailstorm in the district broke over Echuca on Thursday, December 15, and severely damaged orchards and Tomato plantations. Ripening Apricots were ruined, and extensive damage done to Tomatoes. The damage done by the hail is estimated at £10,000 to £15,000.

Some of the hailstones were described as being as large as golf balls. Trees were stripped of leaves as well as fruit, standing crops were laid flat, and the streets of Echuca were covered with hailstones a foot deep in places. At Campaspe West, Crossen Vale, and Lieonarts, the Tomato plots were practically wiped out.

CANADIAN APPLES.

In the 1931 season the Canadian commercial Apple crop totalled 3,731,950 barrels, having a value to the growers of £1,772,759, compared with 3,419,327 barrels in 1930, valued at £2,216,559. The total value of the 1931 fruit crop in Canada was £3,633,055.

Australian Citrus for Canada.—To secure a market in Canada for Australian Oranges, only sweet fruit should be sent with ample juice content. Only cured Lemons should be exported. The Western Canadian market could take 2,000 to 2,500 cases of Oranges per month during June, July, and August. The export of Lemons could be largely increased. There would be a big market in Eastern Canada if shipping facilities were available.—(Extracts form the report of Mr. C. G. Savage, Director of Fruit Culture, N.S.W., after his recent visit to Canada.)

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BROADCASTING PROGRAMMES. Arrangements have been made for the following broadcast talks to be given over 3LO Melbourne at 7.45 p.m. on the dates stated by officers of the Victorian Department of Agriculture:—January 17.—Mr. J. L. Provan, B.Agr.Sc., Horticultural Research Officer, "Budding on Orange Trees." February 3: Mr. J. M. Ward, Superintendent of Horticulture, "Items of Interest to Fruitgrowers." February 17: "Fruit Packing," by Mr. B. P. Krone, Fruit Packing Instructor. February 24: "The Harvesting of Apples," by Mr. A. G. Strickland, M.Agr.Sc., Horticultural Research Officer.

Western Australia.

Perth (30/12/32).—Apples, Yates, dumps, 15/- to 16/6; G. Smith, 15/6 to 20/-. Stone Fruit: Plums, Shiro, 1/6 to 3/-; Santa Rosa, 2/6 to 6/-; (special to 7/-, others from 1/6); Cherries, 1/6 to 3/-; Peaches, 5/- to 9/- (specials to 11/6; inferior from 2/-); Apricots, 4/- to 8/- (special to 9/-, others from 2/-). Citrus: Oranges, plain, flats, 5/- to 8/- (special to 9/6); dumps, 8/- to 11/6 (special to 12/9); Lemons, 5/- to 9/- (special to 11/-); Grapes, open, white, 3/6 to 5/-; colored, 7/6 to 7/9; Passion Fruit, quarter cases, 4/6 to 7/- (special to 9/-); Tomatoes, 5/- to 9/- (special to 10/3, others from 2/6).

Queensland.

Brisbane (30/12/32).—Eating Apples, 7/- to 10/6 per bushel case; halves, 3/6 to 5/6; cookers, 2/- to 5/- bushel case; halves, 1/6 to 2/6; Peaches, special 4/-, others 1/- to 3/- case; Apricots, Stanthorpe, 1/6 to 6/- case; Cherries, 7/- to 9/- box. For Southern Val. Oranges from N.S.W. from 7/- to 8/6 per case ruled for the better class, and other sales were from 4/- to 6/- case; Papaws, colored, 3/- to 5/- case; other grades, 1/6 to 2/6; special local Passion Fruit, best from 2/- to 5/- case; smooth-leaf Pineapples, 5/- to 10/-; Ripleys, local, best 5/- to 7/- case; Queensland Val. Oranges, small 4/- to 5/-, special 7/- to 8/-; second crop, 3/- to 4/-; local Lemons, 8/- to 15/-; Southern Lemons, 20/- to 30/-; Nectarines, 1/- to 4/- case; Pears, green, 1/6 to 2/6 half case; Mangoes, 5/- to 10/- case; Passion Fruit, 3/- to 6/- case.

South Australia.

Adelaide (30/12/32).—Apples (eating), 14/- to 15/- case; do. (cooking), 14/- case; Apricots, 6/- to 8/- case; Cherries (dark), 22/- case; do. (light), 18/- case; Figs, 10/- case; Gooseberries, 12/- case; Lemons, 16/- to 18/-; Loquats, 8/-; Oranges (common), 9/6 to 10/6 case; do. (blood), 10/-; do. (Mandarin), 10/-; do. (Navel), 8/- to 12/-; Passion Fruit, 26/- case; Peaches, 12/- to 14/-; Pears (eating), 10/- to 11/-; do. (cooking), 6/-; Pineapples, 20/- case; Plums (light), 3/- to 4/-; do. (dark), 6/- to 8/-; do. (Japanese), 8/- case.

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Sam: I give it up.
Bill: M.T.G.G.

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—Tiedge.

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QUEENSLAND.

Gympie (17/12/32).—The railings of Bananas to the south from here is fast declining. It is forecast that the output for 1933 will not average 200 cases per week.

The experimental plot at Tin Can Bay has been all planted.

N.Z. Embargo Regretted.

The citrus growers greatly regret the embargo placed on citrus fruits by New Zealand, which appears to be a retaliation because of the embargo placed on Dominion fruit to prevent the importation of fireblight. The Dominion Government maintain that there is no danger of the transmission of the disease to Australian orchards and have adopted retaliatory measures. The yearly export of fruit to New Zealand from Queensland was approximately £3,000, comprising about 9,000 cases of Pineapples. In addition it was intended to have consigned Grapes from the Stanthorpe district, and unless the two Governments come to an agreement these consignments will fall through.

The Banana Sectional Group Committee met on November 25, when Mr. J. Wilson presided. A full number of representatives attended. The district has lost by death two good workers, Major Wise and Mr. A. W. Jessup. Letters of condolence were sent to the relatives, and it was resolved to place on record appreciation for the splendid work of these two gentlemen whilst members of the Committee.

Mr. Buchanan presented a report on behalf of Mr. Hack and himself as representatives on the C.O.D.: the lack of scientific research caused severe criticisms: had Banana diseases received sufficient attention the industry in the Gympie area would have still been on a sound footing.

The manager of the C.O.D. (Mr. W. Ranger) reported that the Revolving Fund Scheme would be paid before Christmas: £4,456 would be required, but there would only be about £2,500 to meet it: the reason being that £2,390/17/- had been paid in income tax. The ex-Treasurer had promised that if the C.O.D. paid their last three years' assessments in full he would refund 2 years of it. In June, 1931, £6,301/9/4 was paid, and in July, 1931, £3,910/12/4 was refunded, leaving a nett payment of £2,390/17/-. The C.O.D. immediately protested, and the matter has not yet been finalised. No other commodity board in Queensland is subject to income tax. The C.O.D. admits no liability legally: there is no doubt it is not liable morally: if the refund is not received growers will be deprived of their rebate at the usual time. A deputation from the S.G. Committee was to wait on the Government on this matter.

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There was a full discussion regarding the delegation to Canberra re the lifting of the embargo on Bananas. After several motions of appreciation to those who had placed the matter so definitely before the Federal Government the matter closed.

Mr. Ellison, C.O.D. Secretary, reported that the term of office of the Protection Board expired shortly, and asked the Committee to make a recommendation to the Department as to the method of election.

Messrs. Hack and Maher were nominated as the growers' representatives to the Banana Industry Protection Board. The levy of 1d. on every £2 for Bananas sold in Queensland was extended for another period of 12 months.

The Banana ripening rooms in Brisbane being so well carried on and with such splendid results, a vote of confidence to the staff was carried unanimously. The high prices being asked for tung oil seed by the nurserymen it was resolved to ask the C.O.D. to obtain prices from America.

The sub-manager reported that the Western Queensland district trade in cased Bananas had increased enormously due to the successful ripening in the C.O.D. rooms.

A great new outlet for the production of Tomatoes is the use of Tomato juice, which is now having sensational sales in Great Britain, Canada and United States, mainly as an appetiser. One Queensland firm had already installed the necessary plant for the extraction of the juice, which is wonderfully refreshing and exceedingly rich in vitamins.

It is used as a beverage and also for making soup.

Grape Export.

The recognised export variety of Grapes is the Ohanez: There is a very keen interest in the Grapes of the Granite Belt, which are stated to be of particularly high quality, and being grown under natural rainfall conditions, they should prove very satisfactory for long distance transport. Small consignments have been tried with success during the last two years. A scheme was placed before the growers recently for the making of a levy of 1d. per case on all Grapes marketed within Australia, the object being to finance any loss in pioneering the export markets. As 56 per cent. of the growers accepted the proposal, the plan is to come into operation forthwith.

Jam Strawberries 6d. per lb.

The Queensland factories this season paid 6d. per lb. for jam Strawberries, and all the factory berries offering were absorbed, and the quality had remained satisfactory for canning, but the hot weather had now forced the factories to rely entirely on the suburban growers of Brisbane. There was no remnant of canning quality Strawberries left unsold.

The Mona Tropical Fruit Co., Townsville, will process 10,000 cases of rough-leaf Pineapples this season. This should dispose of the surplus Pines in Northern districts.

Blyth Chemicals Ltd., of 31 Queen-street, Melbourne, who are the manufacturers of the well-known "Blue Bell" quality sprays, advise that their New South Wales agents are now Messrs. Lanes Ltd., 69 Abercrombie-street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Fruit for Canning.—The Northern Victorian Canneries will take all the fruit offering, and there is every prospect of a record export during 1933. The effect of this is already being reflected in the good prices being realised for fruit generally at the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit Market.

THE RELATION BETWEEN STOCK AND TREE.

Big things and big changes in the world of both thought and action, often take place with little discussion or notice. At present a cloud no bigger than a man's hand may develop into a big recognised principle and practice

Old nurserymen and many fine pomologists among them are about to see one of their ideas either confirmed or refuted over the matter of trees on dwarfing stocks.

Both Paradise and Quince stocks were employed 250 years ago, despite the popular idea that they are modern inventions. For a long time past our best nurseries worked trees on dwarfing stocks for specific and practical reasons, low down, with the union of stock and scion only just above the ground. The intent was that when transplanted to their permanent position, varieties which were not ultimately happy on these stocks would root out "on their own," and establish themselves on their own roots, if they were not compatible with or happy on the grafted root stock.

While time has to a certain extent confirmed this practice as correct, some modern and critical growers are examining afresh the desirability of trees being on their own roots.

East Malling Research Station has this matter in hand, and we may, in the future, have their definite opinion upon a matter of much consequence

We have thus two opposed ideas: (a) the one that it is good for a variety which either dies or goes stunted, to save its life, and root out on its own; (b) that it is bad for a tree to become on its own roots and thus lose the controlling influence of the dwarfing stock.

For the theory and practice of (a), which has been exercised for so many years by nurserymen, we may take as examples such Pears as Doyenne d'Eté, Fertility, Dr. Jules Guyot, and Margaret Marrilat, which, if left on the Quince stock and the union well above the ground so that they cannot root above the union, will do for a few years, yet in the course of six or seven years duly become stunted or die.

The writer has experimented with two trees of Doyenné d'Eté, one planted so that it could not root above the union died at the end of the sixth year. The other, planted so that it could root above the union, is growing away. Such an experiment could be repeated with other varieties of similar growth, so that it may be claimed that, provided the tree is worked low (for the Quince stock is impatient of, and resents deep planting), the nurseryman's practice of many years is justified.

On the other hand, the new theory (b) has sufficient justification to warrant a careful re-examination of the subject with a view to securing any new light that may be possible. A further experiment with Winter Nelis (which does well on Quince) was planted by the writer with the union below the soil. It quickly made fresh

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roots above the union, and on its own roots lost the character expected from the Quince stock and became unfruitful.

The writer is of opinion that if the trees of Conference and Fertility on Quince (of which there are so many fine plantations in Kent) were lifted and examined, it would be found that instead of relying entirely on their original Quince root stock, they have rooted out on their own account, and become established on their own roots. However wrong this may appear in the opinion of some, on the assumption that the benefit of the dwarfing stock is lost, it may be cleared up by a new hypothesis that the dwarfing is needed to function for a limited period only, and that having fulfilled its function to throw the tree into fruitful condition, nature comes in and assists the tree with new roots made above the point of union with the root stock.

It would not be an instance of great enterprise if nurserymen interested in this matter were to make their own experiments—and deductions—for it is a subject which will come up in the future. In so far as private gardens are concerned at least, the practice of the nurserymen of the past is likely to be confirmed. With regard to the commercial fruit grower, a modified method may be required.

By a modified system, I mean that while he may definitely require bad doers on dwarfing stocks to be worked low to enable him to plant in the way indicated, we may find, on the other hand, that he will avoid planting the more vigorous growers in the same way in order to secure the permanent effect of the dwarfing stock. Since while on the one hand fruit-growing is one of the oldest pursuits of man, and yet on the other, still in its infancy, it does behove nurserymen to keep in touch with its developments. This root-stock question has immense importance for the future, both on account of the effect on the tree and quality of the fruit.

A surface rooting stock will usually affect the whole color of fruit, and when a tree has been repeatedly transplanted, good color may be secured from soils which do not usually color fruit well.—C. Sparrow, in "Horticultural Advertiser," England.

THE LATE W. CATTANACH.

Appreciation from U.S.A.

In 1927, the late Mr. William Cattanach, then Chairman of the Victorian State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, visited Honolulu to attend the Pan-Pacific Conference on education, irrigation and recreation. During his stay in Hawaii and his subsequent visit to America, the late Mr. Cattanach created a favorable impression and made many friends. When the news of his death reached America a fine tribute was published in the "Portland Journal," Portland, Oregon. The articles stated: "Mr. Cattanch came to Oregon and the Pacific North-West with the proposal that because of its extreme importance every bucketful of water in river or rill, pond or lake, should be under public control for public benefit, and that no use should ever reduce its full value to the greater number. Everyone now knows that this policy is necessary in connection with power and navigation as well as reclamation.

When a representative of the "Journal" went to Australia to study its methods of reclamation on a journey that also included inquiry into the dairy industry of New Zealand, Mr. Cattanch placed the facilities of the Victorian Government in his own department at the disposal of the visitor, and himself accompanied the "Journal" representative on a trip of hundreds of miles through the irrigated districts.

Word comes from Melbourne that William Cattanch is dead. He was one of the men who built the foundations of Empire."

YIELDS OF TUNG OIL.

IN view of the increasing interest in the growing of tung oil trees in this country, the following paragraphs from "The Country Gentleman" (U.S.A.), is informative as to what might be expected in the way of yields.

The average annual yield of tested trees over a ten-year period, as reported by the University of Florida Experiment Station was 24.08 lb. of dry shelled nuts per tree. On crushing, the nuts were found to yield 33 1-3 per cent. oil. On this basis, the average annual yield per tree for the ten years would be about 8 lb. oil. The average price over the same period was between 14.02 and 15.54 cents per lb. Each tree, therefore, produced approximately $1.20 worth of oil in a year. An acre with sixty trees would yield $72. Each year the trees increase their yield until fifteen years old.

The writer also adds that after the trees are big enough to shade the ground they need very little cultivation. A very important factor in keeping down the expenses is the use of livestock in the groves. They do not harm the trees, but gather the grass and cover crop, and whatever they gain in beef is, of course, a profit, whereas it would cost actual money to cut this grass and cover crop so that the nuts can be easily found. Where the weeds and grass grow high under the trees it is expensive to gather the crop and difficult to find the nuts.—"Agricultural Gazette of N.S.W."

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